



# SOCCER ACTION

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## Summer season should unite soccer

We'll have summer soccer from October next year.

The Phillips League will play its normal winter season, have a short break, then start again in October.

From then on the PSL season will run from October to May, perhaps with a short break in late December — early January.

Soccer's marketing company recommended the switch to summer in 300 pages of documents presented last week.

The Phillips League management committee has accepted this and other recommendations from the marketing report.

The full council of club meeting is expected to adopt summer soccer officially at its meeting on September 5.

By LAURIE SCHWAB

What does the decision mean? Some say it will destroy the PSL, perhaps even kill some players through heat exposure.

It's certainly not that drastic. Matches will not be played at the hottest time of day. Many will be night matches on Fridays or Wednesdays. Others will utilize daylight saving time on the weekends.

In extreme temperatures, games will be called off, just as they are called off when rain makes grounds unfit.

Summer soccer clearly is an emergency measure. The clubs have been unable to draw crowds that justify the high cost of operating in the Phillips League.

They believe that in summer, the crowds will increase.

Talk about attracting non-soccer followers must be taken with a large grain of salt.

However, it is reasonable to assume that soccer converts who now follow a State League, Metropolitan League, amateur, junior or Industrial League club will come to PSL matches when their own leagues are over.

The State Leagues are rejoining. They are left alone now to operate without competition from PSL matches.

And the fans of the PSL clubs, with no other winter competitions to watch, may go to the occasional State League game.

Various levels of soccer thus will help each other. It's worth a try, certainly.

Anything that can unite soccer is worth a try. As an alternative, the PSL clubs could have returned to their respective State Leagues and played a national tournament at the end of the year.

That however, would have hurt a lot of people's pride.

It would have been a solution for the Melbourne and Sydney clubs who would go back to join other strong clubs like Croatia, Ajax, St. George, Melita Eagles, George Cross etc.

Brisbane's clubs similarly could have gone into Queensland's thriving State League, but Newcastle, Wollongong, Canberra and the Adelaide clubs would have been left out on a limb.

One can view the summer soccer decision as a desperate measure to save a dying league, or a determined and potentially successful boost to soccer's status in Australia.

Let's go with the latter. On pages 2-4 we reprint in detail the most pertinent sections of the marketing report.

## Youth team takes over

By LAURIE SCHWAB

The national youth team will play Australia's remaining World Cup matches against Taiwan in Taipei and Indonesia in Djakarta.

Australia cannot advance in the World Cup as New Zealand won the Oceania qualifying group by beating Fiji 13-0 in Auckland last Sunday.

Fiji started its World Cup tour with a scoreless draw against Taiwan and in Djakarta it turned a three-goal deficit into a 3-3 draw.

But in Melbourne last Friday, the Fijians were thrashed 10-0 by the Socceroos, a result which prompted coach Wally Huges to resign the following day.

It was no wonder then, that they were crushed by New Zealand.

The Kiwis now will play home-and-away against other Asian group winners, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and China, for two places in the World Cup finals in Spain next year.

Australia meanwhile, will prepare for the world youth championships to be played here in October. It is to this end that national coach Les Scheinflug recommended to the World Cup committee on Monday that the Australian youth team should replace the full national team for the remaining World Cup games.

"We've got only about seven weeks before the youth championships start, and World Cup matches would certainly help the boys," Scheinflug said.

"Unfortunately it looks like we haven't been able to get additional matches on the tour.

"I had hoped to get two matches in addition to the ones against Taiwan and Indonesia."

Australia meets Taiwan on August 25 and Indonesia on August 30.

The squad leaves on Sunday night, after the round of PSL matches.

Scheinflug will cut his youth squad from 22 to 18 players for the tour.

The automatic choices (include): Glen Ahearn, Brett Woods, Jim Patikas (Sydney City); Steve Blair (St. George Hellas); Robert Wheatley (Blacktown); Peter Raskopoulos (Sydney Olympic); John Little (Preston Makedonia); Dave Skeen (St. George); David Mitchell, Charlie Villani (Adelaide City), and Ian Hunter (Marconi).

Scheinflug said on Monday he still was undecided about the No. 2 goalkeeping position.

Brett Beeves, (Swansea-Belmont), David Miller (West Adelaide) and Dennis Ivanac (AIS) have been tried by Scheinflug.

Ivanac has gone on the AIS tour to England, as has Oscar Crino, and Scheinflug hopes the experience will make up for missing the World Cup tour.

Scheinflug said John Little, star of matches against New Caledonia recently, definitely would be in his squad.

Paul Kay, a star of NSW

Continued p. 7



David Mitchell (left) and Gary Cole — they scored 10 goals between them against Fiji last Friday.

## Cole sets sights on the crown

Gary Cole is out to regain his crown as PSL goalscoring king when Heidelberg United and Marconi meet at Olympic Park tonight (Wednesday) at 7.30 pm.

Current top scorer, Alun Evans of South Melbourne Hellas, is sidelined with a hamstring injury so Cole has the chance to finish as leading scorer for the second consecutive season.

And Marconi's defence could be like lambs sent to the slaughter tonight if the powerful, explosive Bergers' striker hits his straps.

The big blond goal king is recovering from a form slump earlier this season and is set to wreak havoc on Marconi.

Pity help Bertie Mariani and Tony Henderson if they get in Cole's way.

Mariani and Peter Brogan are the likely markers for Cole and Jamie Paton, with Henderson sweeping up behind them.

It's the sort of defence which inspires humorists to concoct symbols of fragility and vulnerability.

I don't envy Marconi's caretaker coach Luciano Nesti. Marconi president Tony Labozetta claims that his players let down former coach Raul Blanco, so how can Nesti motivate a squad whose core consists of despondent Socceroos?

Spain must seem like a million miles away. So will two points when Heidelberg is finished with Marconi.

While on the topic of great distance West Adelaide may grab a point from Sydney Olympic at Hindmarsh Stadium tonight (Wednesday) but it still has a long, trouble strewn trail to traverse before the PSL bosses decide whether or not Wests' PSL status will remain intact for the 1982 season — CRAIG MACKENZIE

Gary Cole is in goal scoring mood — so watch out Marconi . . .



Gary Cole (Heidelberg)

HEIDELBERG UNITED

VS

MARCONI

AT

OLYMPIC PARK (Melbourne)

WEDNESDAY 19th AUGUST 7.30 pm



TONY HENDERSON (Marconi)



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# THE MARKETING REPORT: SUMMER SOCCER: THE CASE IS OUTLINED

## Medical opinion

**THE PSL sought the advice of Dr Brian Corrigan, many times team doctor on Soccaroo tours, to make a report on the medical aspects of playing soccer in summer.**

### His Summary and Recommendations

1. Soccer playing and training should be possible in Australia during the summer months provided the important and essential principles are considered.
2. Additional training and acclimatisation will be needed.
3. A recess is desirable over the late December/January period.
4. Games should not be played in the extreme heat of the day.
5. Consideration of fluid replacement, proper uniforms and times of training are vital.
6. Consideration may be given to an official being able to order the postponement of a game.
7. Extra research should be carried out. It would be well worthwhile writing to the English FA, the medical panel of FIFA, and American Gridiron officials about the research on heat and football playing.
8. There will be some loss of efficiency and skill resulting from playing in the heat, probably not marked and balancing out between the two teams.
9. Coaches and trainers should be instructed in the problems of heat balance and precautions necessary to prevent heat exhaustion. (Percy Russo of the Cumberland College might be asked to organise a day-long course each year to be supported and funded by the Philips Soccer League).

**The marketing document makes the following arguments in favour of summer soccer:**

1. Greater chance to attract non soccer followers
2. No conflict with other soccer tournaments
3. Less interruptions of the soccer season due to hazardous scheduling of international matches.
4. Lessened conflict for soccer exposure on or in, television, radio and print media.
5. The ability to invite and compete against top international sides in matching 'off seasons', by Philips Soccer League clubs that will assist build spectator interest in those clubs.
6. A greater likelihood of drawing junior and youth soccer players as spectators/supporters due to lessened conflict with their available time.
7. Better climate to watch the sport
8. More ability due to climatic conditions to develop night-time soccer and mid-week fixtures
9. A greater ability to develop indoor soccer as our off-season sport as well as other new short term professional tournaments or events.
10. Greater potential for development by existing players to earn sufficient income to turn full professional and also to provide encouragement for up-coming youth players to consider the sport as a career.
11. Greater commercial and sponsorship opportunities opened up due to non-conflict

with other football codes and ability for them to obtain year round exposure by supporting both.

12. Greater opportunities for co-existence and co-operation with other football code clubs who can benefit from association and usage by soccer of their facilities.

The marketing document says other considerations need to be taken into account and worked on extensively between now and October, 1982. These are:

1. a) That clubs obtain suit-

able facilities if they definitely cannot play on their existing home ground for a certain number of fixtures because of clashes with other sports.

b) such alternative venues should, wherever possible, be able to provide adequate television lighting.

c) Also that such alternative venues can provide adequate lighting for non-televized night games. Or that existing clubs without night lights make arrangements for their installation.

2. a) That club coaches, trainers, etc. commence 'medically' planning their training programme in full knowledge that their teams will be competing in a different climatic environment for part of the season.

b) That they therefore avail themselves of all available domestic and international advice and facilities to ensure that their teams encounter minimal problems of acclimatisation.

3. That various tests are undertaken during 1981/82 by both the League and individual clubs of playing throughout these warmer months of November, December, January with various exhibition and training matches testing playing times and conditions.

4. That the League clubs ensure that player contracts are adjusted to expire at the end of the 1982 season ready for new contracts to be drawn up separately for 1982/83 season.

## Flash Gordon shows the way

**This is the year 1981. A short time ago the Americans placed two men in a rocket ship, sent them into outer space and then guided it back to precise landing on salt plains in the middle of America. Virtually the entire world that had television, watched it.**

Today children aspire to be like Flash Gordon or Superman. They emulate their heroes in play by building imaginary space ships and fighting inter-galactic battles with laser guns.

Teenagers paint their faces in black and white and stick their tongues out to emulate their pop heroes, the Kiss.

Younger children insist that their parents use BP petrol so they can buy a Smurf doll or a Smurf colouring-in book. Teenagers drink Big M or more milk because the commercials say it makes them sexy and part of the 'in crowd'.

Children no longer just play snakes and ladders, draughts or happy families. Instead they play Space Invaders, pinball machines or hand held computer games.

Teenagers no longer go to the Saturday night dance at the local church or school hall. They dance until the early hours of the morning at discotheques in a manner that only half a decade ago would have been judged obscene.

Families watch television morning, noon and night. If the television tells them to do something, to buy something, or to be like somebody, they respond accordingly.

Cricketers play with a white ball, wear brightly coloured clothing and play mid-week under lights in a game with a race to beat the clock. The audience no longer puffs pipes and sip gin and tonics. Today they chew gum and drink Coca-Cola. Over 50 percent are under the age of 15.

Why start a report on a proposed change in playing season with facts like these? Well, the very first fact that all administrators of soccer, and specifically the Philips Soccer League Executive and Council of club members must realise and accept, is that this is 1981. We are playing, and attempting to develop a sport in this sort of environment.

This is not 1953 with the Beatles wearing mop-top hairstyles and singing 'She Loves You'. It is not England playing in, and winning, the World Cup at Wembley in extra time.

This is a new generation of players and spectators!

The Philips Soccer League, if it is to survive and develop in the 1980's, has to attune itself and begin to understand and move with the market. The lifeblood of this national soccer competition, or indeed any national sport is in spectators. The

'backbone' of spectatorship of nearly all major sports are people aged 30 and under.

The major nucleus from this age segment are teenagers and younger children. The Philips Soccer League was founded by, and has existed until this point in its history, administering, structured and catering for the older market.

The 'first generation' Australians. Each club has developed a 'supporter' following rather than a 'spectator' following.

They have pandered, catered and promoted to a 'shrinking' market. One might also say quite literally a 'dying' market.

They have not assimilated properly into the Australian community.

They have copied from the 'home country' and not innovated in an Australian way. They live day-to-day rather than planning for tomorrow.

Changing the playing season is about tomorrow and not just today. Changing the playing season is one piece of a jigsaw of activities needed to survive first and develop and expand second.

Club names are one part of the jigsaw. Club emblems are another. Improved facilities are a part. Better playing standards are a part. Better promotion of matches are another part. Personalities and player heroes in clubs are a part.

More press coverage is a part. Constant television exposure is another part. Better pay for players is another part. And junior development programmes by PSL clubs in their local community are another part of this jigsaw.

The plain and simple fact is that the overhauls of running our clubs, and running the League, are racing ahead of our income. Our income comes from primarily four sources at club level at present.

A share of the major League sponsorship which pays air fares.

★ Individual club fund raising activities.

★ Individual team sponsorship.

★ Spectator gate income.

Most of our clubs are not privy to the privileges or benefits of Rugby League clubs with massive social club backing from poker machines or VFL clubs with income from huge attendances, sponsorship and marketing activities. Our clubs are financially supported by a select few rabid supporters.

Unless the system of ownership of clubs changes, then our main road to financial survival is in spectators.

It is with this new generation of people and thinking in society that the Philips Soccer League, and soccer generally, has to consider how best to structure and develop the game in the 1980's.

It cannot develop on the premise of 'sport for sports sake'. If it does it will end up with a handful of clubs playing to empty stands, subsidised mainly by strong social clubs.

Soccer, unlike Rugby League, cannot exist with diminishing spectator levels but high ratings on television.

Soccer has not yet convinced television that it can attract an audience.

It will never do so as long as it traditionally packages and plays the sport as it did in the 60's and 70's. To be on television and acknowledged by specifically the commercial networks, Australian soccer must provide 'entertainment'.

Professional soccer, and our national league cannot just sit here in Australia calmly telling itself that 'its day will come soon', when it is up against the overwhelming media support and involvement of Australian Rules in the Southern States, and Rugby League in the Northern States.

It cannot continue to kid itself that because the majority of children are playing the game, and because we the administrators enjoy a Sunday afternoon on the hill, that the mass Australian public similarly will either support and enjoy the game at our shoddy grounds, or on television.

We have to adapt the sport to suit them.

The plain simple fact is, that as yet we have a product that people do not want to 'buy'.

Why don't they want to buy soccer? Well firstly the majority know nothing about it. They have not been to a Philips Soccer League match. Or if they have, undoubtedly many have not enjoyed the experience of standing amid a few thousand passionate new Australians. They would not have felt at home in their own country.

We want to encourage them to 'buy' our product. Or at least to go out and 'sample' it.

And yet we try to get them to sample the product in wind, rain and cold weather.

We ask them to sample the product after they have spent their Saturday or Sunday driving their children all around the city to play rugby, soccer or some other sport. Most particularly soccer. We ask them to give up the majority of their weekend to be involved in soccer.

Why else have they not sampled or bought our product? Well it has never been packaged, promoted or positioned as appealing enough. It is as simple as that.

There was no way they could build a relationship with a club as a 'spectator' with a 'curiosity' following of the club through watching television, buying supporters gear, swap cards, back of cereal pack promotions or whatever and with simply the occasional visit to the ground or a game.

They have no name that they could brag about and argue that they support in a club.

They have no individuals that they can herald as Australia's greatest, and argue about his attributes or his faults.

They have no coaches to blame who are public figureheads. No referees they know by name to abuse who cost them the game last weekend.

## Clubs choose match days

**Clubs were researched on the question whether they consider a break in the season an essential part of the season change and what they consider the best day of the week to stage matches in the 'high' summer months and the most suitable kick-off time.**

Team Name	Break if any	Summer Match day	Kick-off
Adelaide	No	Friday	8pm
Giants	No	Friday	8pm
Adelaide	No	Friday	Night
Hawks	Mid Dec	Friday	Night
Brisbane	mid Jan.	Friday	Night
Gladiators	No	Friday	Night
Brisbane	No	Friday	Night
Lions	(Sat. 2nd preference)		
Canberra	Week before	Saturday	7.30 pm
Arrows	Xmas & Xmas week		
Footscray	Two weeks	Friday/Saturday	8 pm
Eagles	at Xmas	Sunday	Night
Heidelberg	No opinion		

Warriors	No	(Saturday if Sunday not successful)
Preston Rams	No	Saturday (Nov-Feb) 6 pm
Sth. Melbourne Gunners	No	Sunday, (Oct, March-May) 3.30 pm Sunday (if no lights) 5.30 pm
Newcastle KB Raiders	2 weekends at Xmas	Saturday 8pm
Blacktown Demons	3rd week of Dec. end Jan.	Friday/Saturday Not specified
Leichhardt Strikers	No	Saturday 8 pm
Marconi Leopards	No	Friday 8 pm
Sydney Olympians	Mid Dec mid Jan.	Saturday 8 pm
Sydney Slickers	No/Yes	Saturday 7.30/8 pm
Wollongong Wolves	No	Saturday 8 pm



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# BLUEPRINT FOR THE FUTURE

## The PSL's five commandments

As a result of the marketing report, the PSL management committee has made five firm decisions.

These however, still have to be ratified by the council of clubs on September 5.

The decisions are:

1. The PSL playing season should be changed to October-May from next year but whether or not there should be a Christmas break should be subject to further discussion.

2. A full-time PSL executive director should be appointed as soon as possible.

3. Participation in league fund-raising activities should be compulsory for all PSL clubs.

4. PSL clubs should participate in Cup competitions organised by State federations.

5. A sub-committee should work on setting up a zoned, national youth league and reducing imported players over the next five years, by increasing the number of Australian-born players in each PSL team.

The PSL management also has suggested to the Council of Clubs that the

new executive director and relevant sub-committees study:

1. Zoning the PSL into north and south divisions as soon as 24 suitable clubs are available.

2. Getting Western Australia and Tasmania into the PSL as soon as possible.

3. Franchising of the league and individual clubs.

4. Bringing overseas clubs to Australia on tours organised by the PSL.

5. Setting up a players' association.

6. Running technical and administrative workshops to provide better-trained club administrators.

7. Making the Philips Cup into a more prestigious tournament.

8. Eliminating drawn matches.

9. From 1982, making sure all players wear their names on the back of their shirts and track suits.

10. Introducing an indoor soccer league.

Most of these points are covered in more detail on these pages.

# ENGLAND BEATEN BY THE FUTUROOS



1990 was a big year for soccer in Australia. In the bi-annual Test series clash between Australia and England in July, a capacity crowd of over 40,000 at the Parramatta Park Stadium saw the Australian Socceroos narrowly defeat England in an exciting 'shoot-out' finish to a drawn result of five-all after playing a fourth quarter of thirty minutes extra time.

The Nine Network was ecstatic with the telecast of the match which scored a rating of 40 in Australia, and which also was telecast 'live' by Satellite to England to an estimated audience of some 30 million viewers.

The previous month Australia defeated Japan 3-0 in Newcastle to secure a place at the 1990 World Cup being played for the first time in the United States.

Australia started as joint equal favourites with the United States to take out this prestigious world event which attracted a television viewing audience of over 8 billion.

The final was eventually won by Canada, defeating Brazil 2-0.

Australian national coach, Craig Johnston, obtained permission from the English Football Association to have four of the Australian national team members released from English First Division duties one month prior to the World Cup so they were able to join the Socceroos on their World Cup tournament warm-up tour through South America.

Parramatta Elfs beat Gold Coast Surfers in the national Super League cup final 4-2 to walk away with the Arthur George Trophy and \$100,000 in prize money for the second year in succession.

Patrick Singleton, son of John, the famous old advertising tycoon from the mid-seventies, scored his fourth hat-trick of the season in this exciting match.

Officials at Bruce Stadium expressed concern about the increase in activity by ticket scalpers who this year were asking \$50 for a Cup final seat.

Two new franchises were issued for the Australian Soccer League. The Gosford Boatmen will join Townsville Sharks in 1991 taking the national league to a total of 20 franchises for this year.

Two other franchises have also changed hands with Tooths Breweries buying the prestigious Tasmanian Tigers franchise in Hobart, and Kerry Packer paying \$500,000 for the Sydney Slickers franchise.

Australian Soccer League Coach Murray Barnes renewed his contract with Wollongong Wolves in an undisclosed figure which is believed to exceed \$100,000.

In an international 'challenge' series played in December three Australian Soccer League teams including one from New South Wales Sydney Slickers, competed against Tottenham, Real Madrid and Celtic in a knock-out challenge series at the Parramatta Park Stadium over a ten day period.

The series was won by Liverpool with Sydney Slickers coming third.

The Australian Soccer Federation formed a Medical Review Committee to prepare a report on injuries being sustained by players on Astro-Turf and prepare recommendations on how best to overcome the problems of turf burn injuries.

The Australian Soccer Federation also outlawed the use of wooden and metal goal posts and passed a mandatory ruling that polypropylene moulded goal posts must be

used by all soccer league clubs in future.

The new rule allowing up to three substitutes to be made at the start of each 30-minute quarter in pro-soccer matches has now received unanimous support from all coaches in this country.

The New South Wales State Soccer Federation set up a series of crash coaching schools for school teachers in an effort to cope with the 200,000 young boys and girls now registered as junior soccer players in that State.

The year also saw the introduction of mixed teams of boys and girls competing at school and local club level which is now allowable in all teams with players under 13 years of age.

The year also saw Victoria take out the Australian Schoolboys' championship with the Knox team narrowly defeating Geelong Grammar 2-1 at the Sydney Sports Ground.

The National Indoor Soccer League Final at the Haymarket Entertainment Centre was won by Liverpool Colts who stormed to a tremendous finish in the fourth quarter

against Perth Stingrays to win 15-10.

In the International Indoor Series two Australian teams competed for the \$250,000 prize money in the final play-offs against New York Arrows, Liverpool, Auckland Wanderers, the Chicago Bears and Tokyo Bombers.

Australia played host to the second Women's World Soccer Cup reaching the Semi-Finals before being knocked out by West Germany in an exciting game played at the NBN Sports Centre in Newcastle.

The game was the first event played at this magnificent new stadium which has a seating capacity of 30,000 and the revolutionary domed indoor-outdoor roof which can be opened and closed according to the weather conditions.

The Victorian Federation signed a deal with ABC-028 Cable Television for replay rights to the State League Grand Final Series. The contract is estimated to be worth some \$100,000 for the three matches.

A special version of the ball with the built in transistorised microphone is being used in all

televised matches so that viewers can actually hear the thud and whistle of the ball as it is kicked around the field.

A debate is still raging over the use by some pro-soccer teams of the transistorised ear pieces implanted in the Captain of the team which is linked to the coaches microphone on the bench. Officials charge that this is akin to putting a twelfth man on the field and that continuous instructions relayed to the team disrupts the flow of the game.

The Australian Soccer Referees Federation have made it mandatory for all referees to wear transistorised watches which are synchronised to the Video-Screen clocks. This means that when the referees take time out for injuries or stoppages that the clock on the Video-Screen is synchronised with the referees' watch.

A leading electronics company announced that sales of their 10 foot television screens have increased by 15% following their successful advertising campaign using the endorsement of leading soccer players and other sporting personalities.

## Problem of the new season

The problems created by a change in playing season were outlined as follows:

1. VENUES

(a) For day-time fixtures The majority of all current Philips Soccer League Clubs have existing venues which would be available for playing the game of soccer in the season between October and May.

Those who do not, if presented with the question of obtaining venues to participate in the League would be able to do so providing:

(i) They are given sufficient time to seek and negotiate suitable venue arrangements.

(ii) They are prepared to do so.

The fact is that in all cities a number of alternative venues would become available since it would be the off-season for other football codes.

b) At night

For games played at night on either weekends or week days there are two sub-considerations to take into account:

i) Played during daylight saving hours

All States, with the exception of Queensland, enjoy daylight saving. Here, fixtures could be played at night without under lights. Venues are available to do this if the clubs are prepared to play occasional fixtures away from their home grounds.

The same comment applies



to clubs in other States where as previously mentioned alternative venues would be selected on the basis that they can also provide lights for night time fixtures.

ii) Under lights for television

Only a handful of clubs have adequate lighting for television coverage at night. This question is answered in the specific relevant section but is not as big a problem as some people thought.

2. MEDICAL CONSIDERATIONS

There is no question that medically soccer can be played in a period between October and May each year providing all other considerations are taken into account as detailed in this document and specifically the relevant section on Medical effects.

However, there would definitely be a transitional period with many older players acclimatising themselves to the situation. There is no question that coaches

would need to introduce new training methods and dietary practices to accommodate part of the season lasting about six weeks where humidity about six weeks where humidity would require some new techniques and policies to be pursued by coaches.

In the first season of acclimatisation there would be a period of several weeks where possibly some games played in more extreme situations might slow down. However it is our belief, from the advice we have been able to receive to date, that this would be a temporary aberration and it would not take very long at all for the average younger player to quickly acclimatise to the conditions.

3. THE MEDIA

Media coverage of the Philips Soccer League should remain at the same level and if anything should expand considerably over a period of time in many States.

The only factor affecting this area is the situation that some of our existing journalists like to take their holiday in January, and the question would be whether or not the sports editors would replace them with covering journalists.

This should happen as is the case now when they travel overseas on other assignments, i.e. internationals and Cup Final, etc. or they would simply reschedule holidays.

## Promotion and relegation

The subject of promotion and relegation always has been a controversial one for the Philips Soccer League, State League clubs and State Federations.

Traditionalism and overseas systems appear to dictate that there must be a relegation system in soccer. The marketing company does not believe that should be the case with the national league if the league and its clubs are to develop properly in the future.

It believes that there should be no relegation for national league clubs apart from ultimately relegation between one division and another.

The Philips Soccer League clubs require protection insofar as it is worth their while to spend both time and money in developing spectator facilities and building up their clubs from every conceivable angle.

Commercial companies similarly, if they are to invest adequate sums of money in terms of club sponsorship, need the protection that their investment is not likely to be wasted by their team's relegation after one season.

conversely State Leagues should be in a situation where they are not likely to be 're-

legated' of their best teams through automatic entry into the Philips Soccer League. A degree of stability needs to be enjoyed by State Federations Leagues as well as the Philips Soccer League.

It should be mandatory that all Philips Soccer League clubs are properly affiliated and play in all State competitions required by respective Federations.

The current non-co-operation between both soccer bodies should become one of unification with both parties seeking to develop their competitors to their fullest extent.

Any State League team that aspires to be in the national league, and can meet all of the necessary criteria under a franchise system, should have the ability to apply for a franchise in future years.

However, this would be on the basis that a certain number of franchises is to become available each year on a controlled growth pattern by the national league.

In any plans for zoning, franchising, and expansion of the League, a proper calendar should be drawn up of numbers of members of the holding company planned for the next 10 years. For example:

1982/83 - 18 - no admittals

1983/84 - 18 - admit two

1984/85 - 20 (Two zones)

1985/86 - 24 (Two zones) - admit four

1986/87 - 24 (Two zones) - no admittals

1987/88 - 26 (Two zones) - Admit two

1988/89 - 26 (Two zones) - No admittals

1989/90 - 28 (Two zones) - admit two

In other words a prepared plan is set down which all parties are fully aware of and various cities, clubs, business, etc. can work to for the future.

If it is a known fact that therefore four new franchises will be granted in that year - then various clubs can work towards that aspiration, planning their team strength and performances, their spectator facilities, their financial resources, their commercial backing, etc. with the aim of ultimately seeking admission to the national league.



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# BLUEPRINT FOR THE FUTURE

## Internationals

Marketing has recommended that the Philips Soccer League, through changing the playing season, could benefit greatly from organising international soccer matches between overseas clubs and Philips Soccer League clubs.

There are four main benefits:

(1) Playing international club sides off-season would prove to be a good spectator draw for individual clubs. It would assist draw new spectators to the Philips Soccer League overall who perhaps currently follow overseas soccer rather than domestic soccer because they are ignorant of the standards and attractiveness of play in this country.

(2) There are potential financial rewards to be gained by careful planning and implementation of international tours by club sides. These benefits could accrue to the League rather than private entrepreneurs as has often been the case in the past.

(3) Individual clubs could benefit financially through gate attendance whereby they receive a set percentage of gate money received, with an amount being automatically paid into the League Development Fund or into its general income account.

(4) The introduction of international soccer matches administered and controlled by the League in association with the ASF, also provides other potential revenue sources such as sponsorship of international Round-Robin Series for companies other than Philips, and television rights.

## 2 say no

Clubs opposed to summer soccer are: Footscray

J.U.S.T. and Sydney Olympic. Blacktown and Heidelberg have given no opinion, and the reaction of Brisbane City's president and other executives is negative, but the club prefers to say it has an 'open mind'.

## Lighting

**BLACKTOWN — GABBIE STADIUM.** Does not have any lights and has indicated no plans to install any at this stage.

**MARCONI — MARCONI STADIUM.** Is lit to playing standard level. Club states that it will 'look into' upgrading to television standard level.

**CANBERRA — BRUCE STADIUM.** Is currently not lit. Club states that Government will install TV standard lights by August, 1981.

**NEWCASTLE — INTERNATIONAL SPORTS CENTRE.** Currently not lit. Club states that ISC Trust are 'working on it'. However, latest information is that club is considering moving to alternate venue which is lit to playing standard only.

**WOLLONGONG — WOLLONGONG SHOW GROUND.** Ground is lit to playing standard. No plans to upgrade to TV standard level.

**SYDNEY CITY — SYDNEY ATHLETIC FIELD.** Ground is not lit. Club states that City Council are 'considering' installing TV standard lights during 1981.

**OLYMPIC — PRATTEN PARK.** Stadium is lit to minimum playing standard. Club stated in December 1980 that Ashfield Council is considering upgrading lights in 1981.

**LEICHHARDT — LAMBERT PARK.** Only training lights installed. Club state in December 1980 that it is doubtful that Leichhardt Council would update lights to higher

level. However, negotiations are in progress between the club and council for the use of Leichhardt Stadium which is one of the best TV-lit stadiums in the country.

**BRISBANE CITY — SPENCER PARK.** Currently the stadium is equipped with training lights only. Club plans to upgrade to playing standard during 1981 and to TV standard only in the event a sponsor is obtained to fund the installation of TV standard lighting.

**BRISBANE LIONS — RICHMONDS STADIUM.** Playing lights installed. Club stated in December 1980 that quotes are being sought for upgrading to TV standards.

**ADELAIDE CITY — OLYMPIC SPORTSFIELD.** Training lights only. Club states that it will approach local Council to ascertain attitude on upgrading to TV standard.

**WEST ADELAIDE — HINDMARSH STADIUM.** Stadium is equipped with minimum TV standard lights.

**SOUTH MELBOURNE — MIDDLE PARK STADIUM.** Stadium not lit. Club stated in December 1980 that it is obtaining quotes for playing (not TV) standard lights.

**PRESTON — O'CONNOR RESERVE.** Training lights only. Club states that it plans to install lights within five years.

**HEIDELBERG — OLYMPIC PARK.** TV standard lights installed.

**FOOTSCRAY — SCHINTLER RESERVE.** Training lights only installed. Club has stated it has no plans to upgrade at this stage.

It will be seen from the above that Melbourne, Adelaide and Canberra have the TV light equipped stadia. Sydney would be added if the negotiations with Leichhardt Council result in permission for Leichhardt Stadium being used by soccer.

## Federation

As a change in the Philips Soccer League's playing season could affect other sectors of Australian soccer, the research undertaken by Australian Soccer Federation Marketing also covered the six State Federations in whose areas Philips Soccer League matches are currently played.

The questions asked by federation executives were identical in all cases and with the exception of a brief introductory talk no prompting of the respondents was undertaken.

Three state Federations were in favour of the season change.

Three had some misgivings on the grounds that:

1. Concern about the clubs' financial viability.

2. Concern that State Leagues would get even less media exposure during the PSL off-season.

3. Summer exodus of spectators from metropolitan areas.

All six federations would keep their competitions running in the 'traditional' months but would consider adjustments to fit into a new Philips soccer League season.

## Indoor soccer

Marketing made recommendations last year to Australian Soccer Federation and the Philips Soccer League regarding the introduction of a national indoor soccer competition under the name of The Australian Indoor Soccer League. A separate feasibility document, together with findings and recommendations following investigative research over previous months and the assimilation of all available material from overseas, is currently being prepared.

The Philips Soccer League has been asked to circulate the rules of indoor soccer as extracted direct from the United States.

Marketing made recommendations last year to Australian Soccer Federation and the Philips Soccer League regarding the introduction of a national indoor soccer competition under the name of The Australian Indoor Soccer League. A separate feasibility document, together with findings and recommendations following investigative research over previous months and the assimilation of all available material from overseas, is currently being prepared.

No reaction has been received to date.

Therefore the marketing company could only re-endorse the recommendation it has put forward previously that as soon as an Indoor Soccer League is ready to be structurally implemented, Philips soccer League teams participate wherever possible.

Findings and recommendations will be detailed and circulated separately in the specific document on indoor soccer.

## Imports

As part of a plan to phase down imported players, the marketing report suggests that next year, it should be mandatory for every PSL club to have at least four Australian-born players in their senior teams.

That in 1982/83 there must be a minimum of five Australian born players on the field at any one time.

That in 1983/84 there must be a minimum of six Australian born players on the field at any one time.

That in 1984/85 the figure should be seven and in 1985/86 eight.

The League may consider any permutation that is considered more feasible, but sufficient places should be available in professional soccer league teams for the genuine youth of Australia to work towards or aspire to secure. The definition of 'born' can be the literal meaning or to have resided here from the age of ten.

## Zoning

The question of zoning the League should be considered for implementation as soon as practically possible, the marketing report says.

There are two distinct benefits to the introduction of zoning.

1. It would create more 'local matches' which would have the benefit of helping bolster interest and involvement by supporters and spectators.

2. Ultimately zoning will provide a more equitable means, through reduced travel costs, to admit Tasmania and Western Australia and many other clubs from other areas as well.

The air travel costs of today, and those likely to be projected for the future, are increasing so dramatically that they alone are the major threat to the future expansion of a national soccer league in Australia.

The introduction of zoning, would require alteration to the season culminating by a system of play-offs.

Under the proposed zoning system the first past the post premiership position would disappear, and would be replaced by the 'national champion' team.

That is the team which has battled for the full season to firstly become one of the top teams in its zone, then fought on to win a place representing its zone in the play-off series and ultimately the Final itself.

There is no doubt that zoning, if applied to a 16 team competition, would dramatically reduce costs in travel. However with that number of teams the scheme for play-offs becomes unattractive and unworkable.

Zoning should not be adopted on the basis of saving money for existing clubs but of providing an equitable way (through savings) of expanding the League on a properly planned basis over the next five years.

The subject also interrelates to a 'franchised' League and the two should be considered hand in hand with each other together with the subject of a 'freeze' on relegation policy.

Ideally a zoned League should comprise an Eastern Division of 12 teams and a South/Western Division of 12 teams.

Teams should be admitted from 'regions', not further metropolitan areas. Obviously Tasmania and West Australia would be first considerations plus other areas such as Gosford, Townsville, Tamworth, Gold Coast, Bathurst, Albury/Wodonga, Bendigo and Mt. Isa.

Hence the need is for a plan and a date set for introduction that 'new applicants' can work towards.

If we say that the zoned system is to be introduced in 1984/85 then the entire soccer industry can work towards the fact that eight places are to be filled progressively by that time.

In conjunction with the formation of two zones competing nationally consideration should be given to the set-up of an office in Melbourne with a full-time executive responsible for the conduct of the Southern/Western zone plus publicity and promotion of the League and its clubs in that area.

## No draws?

The marketing company recommends that drawn games should be abolished, but the Council of Clubs is unlikely to adopt the proposal.

The marketing report suggests penalties, or even American-style shoot-outs to break deadlocks, or the introduction of an additional point for a win.

## Franchising

The marketing company recommends that the league investigate and pursue a concept of franchised membership to the League.

When it is discussing a 'franchised league' we are talking about the following:

(i) A company, organisation, corporation or body of which the individual club become financial members and hence shareholders.

(ii) A League which has a number of members, each of which has been allocated a territory in which they can play and which thence protects existing clubs from over-exploitation of various geographic areas by the introduction of too many clubs that detract from spectator or commercial support within their own area.

It is marketing's belief that to survive and develop in the 1980's clubs need to look far beyond simply obtaining sponsors to underwrite their ever increasing overhead costs.



## ADMITTANCE IN THE FUTURE

As the national Australian Soccer League expands other criteria could be set down for future admissions.

The club must meet all League criteria.

2. They must pay franchise security bonds.

3. They must pay annual franchise fees.

4. They must be a State League Club who are consistently in the top three of their League and attracting good crowds.

5. They must be from a country or interstate area that the League Board feels will broaden the development of the League on a national basis.

## Cash fund

In 1980 various proposals were put forward and endorsed by the league management committee and council of clubs regarding the requirement for a league development fund to be created which could provide funding for expenditure related to the marketing and promotional development of the league and its clubs.

The marketing company recommends that the establishment of this fund be pursued most vigorously, and in particular the concept of national fund raising activities conducted by the league clubs. At the request of the league, further investigative work has been going on into the subject of legalities pertaining to lottery/art union or the sale of products.

## Ethnic image

The marketing company put its views in regard to the image of the League related to the continuous debates about ethnic or non-ethnic.

The company's overall attitude was summarised as follows:

'We understand and accept the ethnic origins of many clubs in the League, and the fact that several of these clubs are still dependent on what may be primarily described as a fanatical ethnic support of their club. We do not seek to de-ethnicise an individual club. We do seek to Australianise the overall image of the League.'

'We believe that clubs with strong ethnic support at this point in time should capitalise on that, but seek progressively over the forthcoming years to expand and broaden their horizons in regard to spectator and supporter following of their club. In tandem with this commercial sponsors involvement with the club. In some cases this must be done very gently and progressively, whereas in others it is possible to at all times pursue a totally Australian image.'

While individual clubs pursue their individual courses of action in long term development plans, the League overall must at all times present a totally Australian image.

The clubs must accept the fact that the nicknames they have all approved and endorsed will be used in commercial and marketing activities. Also where deemed necessary in general television and press exposure in order to build up the 'commercial worth' of those club nicknames in regard to licensing and franchising opportunities in the future. In tandem with this the League marketing activities will also promote wherever possible the inter-city rivalry between Australian national league teams.

However, on a localised and purely parochial basis clubs should not seek overnight to sway existing ethnic supporters from continuing their support for old 'ethnic reasons'. Clubs should also promote the actual 'club facilities' under whatever trading name best suits the continued development and support of that social club.



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PRESENTS

## PHILIPS LEAGUE STANDINGS

Figures in brackets denote last week's position on the ladder.

HOME AWAY	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Gls	Pts
1. (1) Sydney City Hakoah	10	3	0	31	10	6	1	6	15	16	46:26	35
2. (2) South Melbourne Hellas	10	2	1	24	8	2	9	2	14	15	38:23	34
3. (6) Adelaide C. Juventus	8	2	4	20	12	4	4	4	20	18	40:30	30
4. (4) Brisbane City	18	4	1	20	6	2	6	5	10	15	30:21	30
5. (7) Canberra City	5	4	4	24	17	6	3	4	14	10	38:27	29
6. (3) Brisbane Lions	9	3	1	23	9	1	6	5	13	18	36:27	29
7. (5) APIA-Leichhardt	6	5	1	18	10	4	4	5	12	17	30:29	29
8. (8) Wollongong	4	7	2	20	15	3	5	5	10	15	30:30	26
9. (9) Newcastle KB United	4	5	4	22	15	5	2	6	14	23	35:34	25
10. (12) Sydney Olympic	7	4	2	22	15	1	3	8	14	26	36:41	23
11. (13) Heidelberg-Alexander	4	2	5	12	12	5	2	6	27	23	39:35	22
12. (10) Marconi-Datsun	6	2	4	15	16	3	2	6	5	17	20:33	22
13. (11) Footscray JUST	6	5	2	19	13	2	1	10	8	30	27:43	22
14. (14) Preston Makedonia	6	4	3	25	12	1	3	9	9	25	34:37	21
15. (15) Blacktown City	3	3	7	15	20	1	5	6	12	19	27:39	16
16. (16) West Adelaide Hellas	3	2	6	11	16	1	1	12	9	32	20:48	11

\*Match in hand. \*\*Two matches in hand. \*\*\*Three matches in hand.

## TEAM OF WEEK

In brackets — number of appearances in this team —

CROOK (3)  
(WA-Hellas)

PERRY (2) T. BYRNE (6) KONDARIOS (4) YANKOS (2)  
(Brisb. C) (Canberra) (JUST) (H'berg)

RASKOPOULOS (2) BOYLE (3) JOVANOVIĆ (1)  
(Syd. Olympic) (Makedonia) (JUST)

WATSON (6) MITCHELL (9) NORTHCOTE (1)  
(Syd. C) (Adel. C) (Adel. C)

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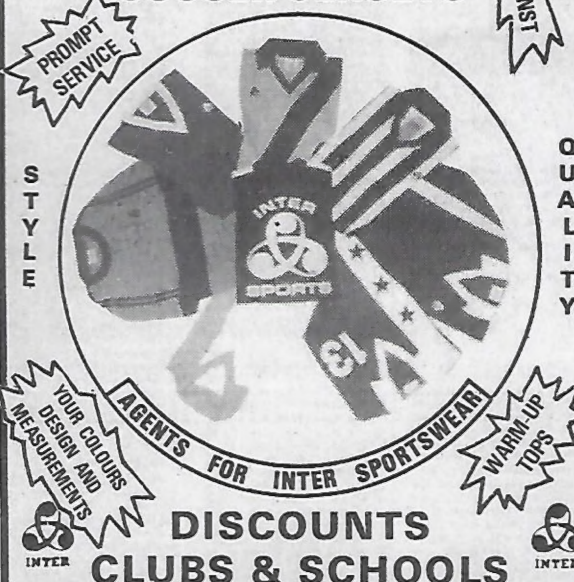
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Day 6 Saturday — SPLIT/DUBROVNIK.

Day 7 Sunday — DUBROVNIK.

Day 8 Monday — DUBROVNIK.

Day 9 Tuesday — DUBROVNIK/MOSTAR.

Day 10 Wednesday — MOSTAR/SARAJEVO.

Day 11 Thursday — SARAJEVO/ZAGREB.

Day 12 Friday — ZAGREB/BELGRADE.

Day 13 Saturday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 14 Sunday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 15 Monday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 16 Tuesday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 17 Wednesday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 18 Thursday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 19 Friday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 20 Saturday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 21 Sunday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 22 Monday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 23 Tuesday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 24 Wednesday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 25 Thursday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 26 Friday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 27 Saturday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 28 Sunday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 29 Monday — BELGRADE.

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Day 30 Tuesday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 31 Wednesday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 32 Thursday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 33 Friday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 34 Saturday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 35 Sunday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 36 Monday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 37 Tuesday — BELGRADE.

For details of itinerary see Holiday No. 3.

Day 38 Wednesday — BELGRADE.

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Day 3 Wednesday — DUBROVNIK/HVAR. Transfer to the harbour to board the last ferry liner at 10.30 a.m. for a relaxing cruise to Hvar, the sunniest island on the Adriatic. Dinner and overnight.

Day 4 Thursday — HVAR. A full day to relax and enjoy the charming island. Sightseeing highlights include the oldest theatre in Europe, the City Walls and the old Arsenal. Dinner and overnight.

Day 5 Friday — HVAR/SPLIT. Transfer to pier at 4.00 p.m. for a two-hour journey to Split. Upon arrival transfer to your hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 6 Saturday — SPLIT. Morning sightseeing of this historic city founded nearly 17 centuries ago. Your tour visits Diocletian's Palace with the Emperor's Mausoleum, now the Cathedral, Jupiter's Temple, and many buildings with splendid, ancient and modern art dating back to Roman times. Dinner and overnight.

Day 7 Sunday — SPLIT. Your tour ends after breakfast.

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### THIS WEEK'S VOTES

PRESTON MAKEDONIA 2 (Brown, Lucchesi) WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS 0 at Connor Reserve. Votes by Laurie Schwab: 6. Boyle (Mak), 5. Lucchesi (Mak), 4. Crook (WA), 3. Brown (Mak), 2. Ollerton (Mak), 1. Hambas (WA).

CANBERRA CITY 4 (Brennan, Byrne, Purdie, Valeri) NEWCASTLE KB UTD 1 (Jones) at Bruce Stadium. Votes by Peter Windsor: 6. Byrne (Can), 5. Brennan (Can), 4. Hays (Newc), 3. Moutsopoulos (Can), 2. Renney (Newc), 1. Kamasz (Newc).

SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH 3 (Kosminz, Boden, Watson) APIA-LEICHHARDT 0 at Sydney Athletic Field. Votes by Tom Anderson: 6. Watson (SC), 5. Souness (SC), 4. Wilson (APIA), 3. Woodhouse (APIA), 2. Clarke (SC), 1. Patikas (SC).

BRISBANE CITY 1 (Kelsa) SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (Xanthopoulos) at Spencer Park (mid-week postponed game). Votes by Bruce Waddell: 6. Perry (SC), 5. Lutton (SM), 4. Gaffney (BC), 3. Rogers (SM), 2. Campbell (SM), 1. Pimblett (BC).

HEIDELBERG 2 (Paton, Cole) FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T. 0 at Olympic Park. Votes by Dick Prendergast: 6. Jovanovic (JUST), 5. Konerios (JUST), 4. Kyriakoulas (JUST), 3. Yankos (H'berg), 2. McMillan (H'berg), 1. Provan (H'berg).

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 3 (Koussas, Redfer, Raskopoulos) BRISBANE LIONS 1 (Williamson) at Preston Park. Votes by Knut Werner: 6. Raskopoulos (SO), 5. Redfer (SO), 4. Hermiton (BL), 3. Bennett (BL), 2. Niven (BL), 1. P. Wilson (SO).

ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS 2 (Northcote, Parin pen) SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 0 at Olympic Sports Field. Votes by Frank Pangallo: 6. Mitchell (AC), 5. Northcote (AC), 4. Stevenson (SM), 3. Parin (AC), 2. Shire (SM), 1. B. Nyakohus (AC).

Leaders: 78. Mitchell (AC) 77. Hamilton (BL) 67. Bennett (BL) 62. Wilson (APIA) 61. T. Byrne (Can) 60. Crook (WA) 55. Dunleavy (Woll), Evans (SM), Boland (JUST).

52. Bartogna (Newc) 51. Brennan (Can).

Top scorers: 13. Evans (SM) 12. Cole (H'berg) 11. Boden (SC) 9. P. Wilkinson (BC), Koussas (SC), Soper (APIA).

8. Paton (H'berg), Barnes (SC), Souness (SC), Koussas (SO), Ollerton (Mak), Mitchell, J. Nyakohus (AC), Valeri (Can).

7. Christopoulos (SM) 6. Campbell (H'berg), Hamilton (BC), O'Connor (APIA), Cullen, Brown, Lucchesi (Mak), Northcote (AC), Gibson (Can), Iliakos, Cozzelle (JUST), McBrown (Woll), Williamson (BL), Sharpe, Jankovics (Marc), Mountford (New).





## TOM ANDERSON

Soccer is a universal language. A German, Italian, Greek or Scot can forget his language difficulties the moment he steps onto a soccer pitch.

For when the game starts they all communicate through the game of soccer.

This is a fact among players and coaches and one that was refreshingly brought back to me in no mean fashion when I recently completed a book that will hit the bookstands this week throughout Australia and in the not-too-distant future 20 other countries.

The book, compiled with the coaching directions of the great Karl-Heinz Heddergott called "The Kickaburra How to Play Soccer Book."

It is published by the Rigby organisation and although I saw so myself, it's a thoroughly good publication.

It provides the ABC of soccer — how the game should be played the easy way.

Heddergott is universally acclaimed as one of the world's leading teachers of soccer.

A former Director of Coaching for West Germany, he now holds a similar position in Scotland.

In researching this book, I went around various junior clubs to find out just what was needed most.

I found out that with over 500,000 kids playing the game here in Australia many mums, dads and non-trained coaches are in charge of the junior teams.

These people are doing a great job and need all the help they can get.

I'm sure the Kickaburra

## Summer's not the answer

book will be helpful to them and the thousands of young hopefuls.

I also found out by talking and mixing in the junior ranks another great deficiency in our soccer set-up — lack of communication between senior and junior levels.

In too many cases the junior clubs are left to plough a lone furrow and are completely neglected by the senior body.

This results in mistrust, confusion and in fact a complete breakdown in all understanding and aims.

Senior and junior fixtures are played at the same time, and the two levels are in direct opposition to each other.

Believe me, in such a situation the language of soccer is not universal — it's not even neighbourly.

This breakdown was given as one of the reasons for the ASF marketing company's recommendation for summer soccer at the seminar last week.

Statements from the powers that be, declared that it will take a move towards summer soccer to try to unite the factions that are not pulling together.

What a load of rubbish!

It's not summer soccer that's needed, it's people at senior level to get off their fat rumps and go to the juniors

and find out what's the matter and provide the solutions.

It's time for the powers that be to bring the juniors into their act and provide help and guidance.

May I ask what the marketing company have done about the present situation since it has been in soccer?

What indeed! It's not what's wrong that needs pointing out, it's what needs to be done about it.

This, I may add, is not summer soccer.

Let's forget about screwing the kids and junior organisations for every cent on coaching camps and clinics and give them some free attention and free education.

Maybe then all sections of the code will pull in the one direction and not in a hundred different directions at the same time.

This can only come through everyone talking the same universal language of soccer.

No, not summer soccer, for unless understanding can be gained it will not matter when or where the game is played — it will not succeed.

In the long run it will be deemed that there is no substitute for knowledge of soccer when the solutions are found.

Let's hope peace can be found quickly before the game is completely submerged by this summer campaign.

In the Kickaburra book, Heddergott states that the basis of soccer is that every player is part of a team and no-one is alone on the field.

I wish some of our "bright boys" of the marketing company would realise that this also applies to the administration of soccer.

And until they do, our present problems never will be solved.



Duncan Cummings puts the ball into the net for South Melbourne Hellas, but it was ruled offside. Picture by FRANK HOBBS.

# Magnificent Mitchell

## Adel. City 2 SM-Hellas 6

Scorers: Northcote 61, Perin 80.

Olympic Sportsfield. Crowd 5100. Conditions: Fine.

Referee: Dennis Rampley 5.

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS: Laumets 7, Bannon 7, Davidson 7, Lutton 7 (Campbell 7), Xanthopoulos 7, Rogers 8, Stevenson 8, Blair 7, 7; Cummings 7; Buljevic 7.

ADELAIDE CITY: Przybylski 8, Russell 7, B. Nyskohous 8, Perin 8, Jones 7, Mehta 6, Marocchi 6, Villani 7, Northcote 9, J. Nyskohous 6, Mitchell 9.

Amid all the brilliance at Olympic Sportsfield last weekend was much frustration.

For Adelaide City it was the end of a dramatic seven-match slump which may have come a shade too late to rekindle slim championship hopes.

And for South Melbourne the

By FRANK PANGALLO

## MATCH RATING: 8

realisation of the PSL title has been made a somewhat tougher task that is likely to be decided one way or another in the showdown against Sydney City on Sunday week.

The final scoreline wasn't indicative of South Melbourne's performance but of its inability to capitalise on the chances it had made.

South Melbourne was guilty of poor finishing when it mattered while Adelaide City thankfully accepted two chances for the many it too wasted.

But the huge crowd, bolstered by a local band of South supporters that made the trip enjoyed every exciting moment of attack and counter attack provided by the two teams.

South Melbourne could have easily done as others in the past have in Adelaide by playing it cautious, particularly when there was so much at stake.

That it didn't made it a most memorable match that had everything — goalmouth thrills, adventurous and spectacular shooting, subtle ball skills and an inconsistent refereeing display by Dennis Rampley who all but crucified the confidence of City midfielder Sergio Melta.

South looked the more composed and inventive side in a goalless first half, holding the edge in midfield where John Stevenson in particular exposed the lack of pace of Melta, Gary Marocchi and Charley Villani.

But where the Adelaide defence has wilted in the past seven rounds, it stuck to its task admirably.

There were occasions in the first half when the defence looked set to crumble. Stevenson stole the ball from Melta and quickly sent Jim Shirra on his way to an open goal but the Scot tied the ball over the bar with only the goalkeeper to beat.

Moments later Cummings, with room to pick his mark, struck the bar hopelessly off his line.

Przybylski made hard work of a simple aerial catch that spilled to Branko Buljevic who angrily watched his header skim over the bar.

At the other end the South defence had its hands full trying to contain the brilliant David Mitchell who, with Brian Northcote, weaved a path of havoc.

Mitchell had the best chance of the first half 10 minutes before the break when he flashed into the box and drove a pass against the far post.

South Melbourne went looking for the tiebreaker from the start of the second half and almost succeeded after four minutes when Buljevic netted a nod from Cummings but Rampley ruled offside.

The left-off inspired City and Northcote's presence up front became more pronounced.

Northcote found his mark after 61 minutes when he turned on a loose ball on the edge of the area and flashed a left-footed volley wide of Laumets.

Ten minutes from the end a careless tackle by Vince Bannon on Melta brought an end to South's hopes. John Perin converted the spot kick.

# WEST ADELAIDE DOOMED, MAKEDONIA ON WAY UP

## Makedonia 2 West Adel 0

Goals: Brown 83rd, Lucchese 84th.

Venue: Connor Reserve, Reservoir.

Crowd: About 2500.

Referee: Chris Brambridge 8.

Cautions: Maricic, McGregor, Homanen (WA), Rainey, Boyle (MA).

PRESTON-MAKEDONIA: Clayton 6 — Rainey 7, Orlerton 8, McMillan 8, Beech 7 — Farrell 6, Boyle 8, Flavell 6 (Cullen 7th) — Whittle 7 (Little 6th), Lucchese 8, Brown 8.

WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS: Crook 8 — Maricic 7, Kambas 8, Ford 7, McKie 7 — Wright 6, Marve 5 (Brown 5, half time), Honeymann 7, McGregor 5 — Kowalski 8 (Lorenzoni 84th), Smythe 5.

The West Adelaide players conceded after the game that their club was doomed to relegation.

But goalkeeper Martyn Crook said he was confident West Adelaide would be re-elected to the league because, in his opinion, there are no other teams in Adelaide suitable for PSL membership.

Indeed, the defenders must be complimented on the conscientious way they stuck to their man-to-man marking.

However, the midfield created very little, and the breakaway attacks were usually based on only one or two men, who had to run alone



Laurie Schwab

## MATCH RATING: 5

The proposed amalgamation between Azzurri and Campbelltown has been abandoned and according to latest reports, Azzurri will try to gain membership in its own right.

Peter Boyle, playing well against his old club for the first time since transferring, said he thought the performance against Makedonia had been one of West Adelaide's better efforts.

A strong wind down the ground ruined the game as a spectacle.

West Adelaide had use of the wind in the first half, and Jim Wright was proud for a while on the right flank. He managed a good run capped by a square ball into the goal

area, but Gary Clayton got down to it before anyone could get a shot to it.

Crook dived at the feet of Alan Whittle and Tom Ford blocked a close-in shot by Lucchese before a goal by Brown was ruled offside.

Brown held the ball too long on a run down the left, instead of playing it square to unmarked Whittle, and Crook dived at its feet.

Against the wind, West Adelaide dropped back in numbers to cut down Makedonia's space.

Lucchese headed a Brown cross just wide from an unmarked position in the 50th minute and had a shot cleared by Kambas shortly afterwards.

Lucchese was fouled again in the 62nd minute when he killed the ball, turned and shot well but Crook made an uncanny fingertip save.

West Adelaide almost scored in the 68th minute when

the ball and were usually dispossessed by Peter Orlerton or George McMillan.

Makedonia had two goals — by Doug Brown and Claude Lucchese — ruled offside and left it until seven minutes from the end to score.

Brown got that one, slipping the ball low past Crook after substitute Rob Cullen had brought down a long high ball and tapped it on to Brown.

Both players also were involved in the second goal, scored a minute from the end. Cullen crossed from the right, Brown, who miskicked while shooting at goal, Lucchese drilled in and put the ball away.

Lucchese's fine skills again were impressive. He can bring down a difficult ball with one touch, and turn at the same time. He also is very adept at shielding the ball, while waiting for support.

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A strong wind down the ground ruined the game as a spectacle.

Clayton missed a cross by Tim Brown, allowing Vic Smythe to shoot, but McMillan had dropped back behind Clayton to head off the goal line.

Makedonia replaced Whittle with John Little in the 67th minute and later brought on Rob Cullen who had a hand in both goals.

In the 71st minute Little headed the ball down, Lucchese chased it across the box and back-heeled it stylishly to Isaac Farrell whose shot however was too high.

Then came the winning goals — better late than never, they were saying in the social club afterwards.

There's a lot of confidence in the Makedonia camp now, so much so that Boyle and Orlerton were predicting a victory over Adelaide City at Connor Reserve on Sunday.

Orlerton added his men also would beat Sydney City at home in the second-last round of the season.

# Byrne back with a vengeance

## Canberra 4 Newcastle 1

Goals, Can: Brennan, Byrne, Purdie, Valeri; Newc: Jones.

CANBERRA: Hoszowski 7, M. O'Shea 7, Moutsopoulos 8, Byrne 8, J. O'Shea 7, R. O'Shea 7, Stone 7 (Massa, 48th), Gibson 7, Valeri 7, Brennan 8 (Purdie 65th, 71, McLaren 7).

NEWCASTLE: Dando 7, Reaney 7, Trudimick 7, Drinkwater 7, Mason 7, Senkalski 8, Jones 8, Buckley 7 (Stamp 50th), Moutford 7, Kamaz 7, Heys 8.

Ref. K. Allen, Canberra. Cautions: Nil. Crowd: 2,100. Weather: Fine but windy.

A magic goal by Tony Brennan, a magnificent return from injury by skipper Terry Byrne and an overall spirited fighting performance saw Canberra trounce Newcastle 4-1 last Sunday.

It was Canberra's best-ever result against the Goalmasters and the first time since the Phillips League began that they have achieved a clean sweep against them.

Yet surprisingly there wasn't that much difference between the two squads.

As Canberra's coach, George Murray, so aptly said after the game: "The difference was really the way we punished them whenever they made a mistake."

The other difference was Byrne's presence in the defence and Brennan's magnificent running and goal — until,

The crowd, albeit a meagre 2,100 sat stunned — apart from the two coachloads of loyal Newcastle fans, that is.

But just six minutes later Canberra were back in business with a vengeance.

Newcomer Ian Stone, ex-Sydney Croatia but more recently ex-Weston (Newcastle) player, found Brennan with a well-placed pass.

Brennan's speed did the rest and he forced his way near to the side-line, cut inside and cracked the ball low and hard.

Byrne was there just a metre or so from the goal-line to steer it into the net.

Then came Brennan's 32nd minute piece of wizardry.

It was probably the best goal seen at Bruce Stadium.

Brennan collected the ball 20 metres out, waltzed around two defenders with uncanny ball control and then, as Phil Dando moved forward to narrow the angle, Brennan fired it hard and low into the far corner.

It enabled Canberra to go into the dressing room at half time 2-1 ahead.

They deserved the lead.

Newcastle, to give it credit, fought back well in the early stages of the second half.

Veteran defender Paul Reaney was coming forward to create havoc in Canberra's defence and roving midfielder Joe Senkalski was also having a superb game.

One well organised raid saw David Kamaz unmarked on the right flank and able to beat everyone but Terry Byrne with a low, hard shot.

Byrne, fortunately, kicked it off the goal-line. Had Newcastle drawn level 2-2 at this point the game, understandably, could have had a much different ending.

Canberra took the hint and in the 73rd minute an unfortunate Phil Dando mistake sealed Newcastle's fate.

Big Dando raced out to clear a lobbed ball only to see it strike Canberra's forward Walter Valeri.

Valeri, until this point, had had an off-day but as Dando frantically scrambled to get back into his net, Valeri took the chance well and cracked the ball into the empty goal.

Minutes later Dando felled Brennan with a solid tackle inside the penalty area and Canberra's striker had to be helped from the field.

His place was taken by Scottish import Ian Purdie and it was Purdie — just four minutes from full-time, who scored Canberra's final goal.

Fortunately for Canberra Brennan's injury turned out to be no more than a badly bruised shin.

From a Canberra spectator's point of view it was a marvellous match and a marvellous result. For Newcastle it was disastrous.

More importantly it redeemed Canberra in the eyes of their fans.

With only two home games remaining and Canberra in with a chance of a spot in the top four the crowds for those remaining games should — hopefully — be considerably swollen.

# Watch out for Olympic in '82 says Gilroy

## Syd. Olympic 3 Bris. Lions 1

Scorers: SO — Koussas, Redfern, Raskopoulos; Lions — Williamson.

Ground: Pratten Park. Crowd: 5728.

Referee: Power 8.

OLYMPIC: P. Wilson 8 — Moulis 6, Rowden 6, Ziras 7, Scott 6 — Raskopoulos 9, Kotholos 7 (Jamieson 80th), Redfern 8 (inj. Gavin 75th), K. Wilson 7, Koussas 7, Jennings 7.

LIONS: Scanlan 6 — Ontong 6, Hermiston 8, Bennett 8, Niven 8 — Ogden 6 (McLellan 50th, 71), Hogg 7, Foris 7 — Dount 6 (G. Wilson 50th, 6), Williamson 6, Low 6.

Sydney Olympic handled Brisbane Lions' much vaunted defence with something akin to disdain as it ran out a 3-1 winner in a highly entertaining clash at Pratten Park.

"On that display, Olympic will be a great force in 1982," Lions coach Joe Gilroy predicted after the game.

High praise indeed from the coach of the club that has gone undefeated over 13 league matches since May 10 and has reached the Phillips Cup Final as well.



Knut Werner

## MATCH RATING: 8

The Olympians looked a better unit than they have all year, due in large measure to the steady influence and skill of English winger Jim Redfern and the increasing maturity of midfielders Terry Raskopoulos and Peter Katholos.

They ripped into the Lions from the first whistle.

They went close in the first half when Lions' goalkeeper Tony Scanlan somehow lifted a bouncing Ian Rowden headed over the cross bar, and again as a Raskopoulos shot took a late deflection.

It seemed that the first session would stay scoreless but

Mark Koussas placed his header beautifully in the last minute from a clever Redfern cross.

Redfern was on the mark three minutes into the second half. Koussas broke through to drive his shot onto the cross bar, but Redfern was following in to stab the ball home.

Lions tried a double change, replacing Calvin Daunt and John Ogden with Jim McLean and Graham Wilson.

By the 55th minute, the Lions broke paid off as striker Billy Williamson headed home a pass from stopper Col Bennett.

Then Olympic's Soccerroo midfielder Katholos tried to take a hand in affairs.

One shot hit the post only to slide across the goal line and go out of play beyond the far post.

Katholos then smashed the ball onto the base of the post, but with the score at 2-1 to Olympic, Lions were still in the event.

Three minutes from the end, the hard-driving Raskopoulos added his name to the scorers with a shot which Scanlan failed to cover only to let the ball spin out of his grasp into the net.

Clayton missed a cross by Tim Brown, allowing Vic Smythe to shoot, but McMillan had dropped back behind Clayton to head off the goal line.

Makedonia replaced Whittle with John Little in the 67th minute and later brought on Rob Cullen who had a hand in both goals.

In the 71st minute Little headed the ball down, Lucchese chased it across the box and back-heeled it stylishly to Isaac Farrell whose shot however was too high.</



# Hellas too classy, vital for Blacktown

**South Melbourne Hellas will beat Brisbane City at Middle Park on Sunday.**

Hellas isn't happy with having been forced to fly to Brisbane last week to play a midweek game against Brisbane City without star players Steve Woodin, Steve Blair and Alan Davidson.

An Arthur Xanthopoulos goal gave Hellas a valuable point and restored its leadership of the PSL.

This time, with a full strength line-up apart from injured Alan Evans Hellas should be too classy for the Brisbane boys.

Blair will take care of Barry Kelso, Woodin will expose glaring holes in the Brisbane defence, while Davidson charges forward in support of his front runners and adds pressure to Hellas's forward forays.

Meanwhile Branko Buljevic will taunt and tease his opponents with his intricate skills as the relentless Vince Bannon surges forward down Hellas's right.

And Xanthopoulos periodically will break out of defence and lend his considerable talent in support of the Hellas cause - goals and more goals.

Sounds good, doesn't it? I hope I've exercised all the evil spells which I was accused of casting on Hellas this season by a couple of club officials recently.

But should Brisbane City decide to do its fighting out on the park instead of at training, then it may stretch Hellas on Sunday.

I know one thing for sure. After I've been so adamant that Hellas is going to win you won't find me getting in the way of City coach George Potter on Sunday.

I think Preston Makedonia can beat Adelaide City at Connor Reserve on Sunday.

Makedonia may have been humbled toward the end of its Middle Park confrontation with Hellas two weeks ago but had Claude Lucchesi scored from the penalty spot there's no telling what may have happened in the remainder of that match.

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Adelaide City's hopes of the PSL title have been dashed in recent weeks so Makedonia, striving to push clear of the relegation zone, has much more to play for.

With this spur behind them, Makedonia should win. I still don't know why Canberra allowed the talented Isaac Farrell to leave earlier this season. Farrell is a class midfielder, with good disposal, the ability to hold possession under pressure and take on players.

Sydney City travels to the Wollongong Showgrounds to take on the home team on Sunday and must win to keep up its pressure on Hellas for top PSL billing.

I think the Slickers will triumph but they'll find the discipline and organisation of the Wollongong defence a handful.

It's hard to see John Kosmina, Ken Boden and Joe Watson shackled throughout this game, though. With Murray Barnes and Jim Patikas pushing up in support, the visitors should crack the solid core of the home side's back four.

APIA Leichhardt never has lost a PSL game to Canberra and these sides meet at Lambert Park on Sunday.

APIA probably entertains a slim hope of catching Hellas and Sydney City in the title race but it could slip by conceding a point to Canberra.

The key to the outcome will be APIA's ability to hold Tony Brennan while trying to pierce Canberra's defence, led by sweeper Terry Byrne.

Blacktown must pick up both points against Sydney Olympic at Gable Stadium on Sunday if it is to have any chance of getting out of the relegation zone.

Blacktown coach Rale Rasic will appreciate that if his side can't beat another team in the bottom half of the table then it can forget about catching the many teams above it in the league.

It's getting late for Blacktown to escape but Rasic

will be looking to Jovan Djordjevic and Paul Burrows to lead his side's fight against Olympic.

It hasn't been a good year for Olympic, its first after being readmitted to PSL ranks.

Tommy Docherty has come and gone. His legacy was a successful relationship with the media but a not too successful record on the field. His predecessor, Doug Collins, hasn't had an easy time. The Doc didn't exactly leave Collins with a marvellously drilled attacking unit, despite the hallyhoo about Olympic playing with four up front.

Although the future of Olympic looks bright with youngsters such as Pater Kaskopoulos, Mark Koussas, Jim Ziras and Danny Moulis, this present-day Olympic isn't a disciplined outfit and could lose to Blacktown. Heidelberg has lost only one PSL game to Brisbane Lions since 1977 and although Sunday's clash between the two takes place at Richlands Stadium, the Bergers shouldn't suffer a second loss.

I'm tipping a draw. This game will revolve around the success or failure of Lions' markers for Gary Cole and Jamie Paton.

Heidelberg midfielder Jim Campbell is back to his bubbling best and his ability to burst forward from midfield could add to the pressure on Lions' defenders Paul Ontong, Alan Niven, Jim Hermiston and Col Bennett.

Newcastle has yet to beat Marconi in the league but the home side should snatch a point from the unsettled Marconi side in the throws of a reorganisation period under caretaker coach Luciano Nesi.

Newcastle's International Sports Centre should house a large enthusiastic crowd for Sunday's game and they will be hoping that big Bob Montford, Graham Heys and David Jones can break through the Marconi defence, led by Soccerroo sweeper Tony Henderson.

West Adelaide's recent record against Melbourne-based outfits is abysmal and shouldn't be improved after Sunday's Hindmarsh Stadium battle with Footscray J.U.S.T.

There's a confidence and discipline about J.U.S.T. no-

wadays and the West side will find it difficult to repeat its 1-1 result recorded at Schindler Reserve earlier this season.

IN MELBOURNE

**SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS** V Brisbane City at Middle Park, Sunday, 3pm. Previous results: 1977 - BC 2-0, 1-0, 1978 - SMH 4-3, BC 1-0, 1979 - SMH 4-0, BC 1-0, 1980 - SMH 1-0, 3-3, 1981 - 1-1. Advantage Brisbane City 4 wins, 2 draws, 3 losses. Goals: 12:13.

**PRESTON MAKEDONIA** V Adelaide City at Connor Reserve, Sunday, 3pm. Previous result: 1981 - AC 1-0.

IN SYDNEY

**BLACKTOWN** V Sydney Olympic at Gable Stadium, Sunday, 3pm. Previous result: 80 1-0.

**APIA Leichhardt** V Canberra (draw) at Lambert Park, Sunday, 3pm. Previous results: 1979 - APIA 3-0, 0-0, 1980 - APIA 2-1, 2-2, 1981 - APIA 1-0. Advantage APIA 3 wins, 2 draws, Goals: 8:3.

IN BRISBANE

**Brisbane Lions** V Heidelberg (draw) at Richlands Stadium, Sunday, 3pm. Previous results: 1977 - Held 4-1, Lions 2-1, 1978 - 1-1, 0-0, 1979 - Held 3-1, 0-0, 1980 - Held 2-1, 1-0. Advantage Heidelberg 4 wins, 3 draws, 1 loss. Goals: 12:8.

IN NEWCASTLE

**Newcastle KB** V Marconi (draw) at International Sports Centre, Sunday, 2.30pm. Previous results: 1978 - Mar 4-2, KB 1-0, 1979 - Mar 2-1, KB 2-1, 1980 - Mar 4-1, 1-0, 1981 - KB 2-1. Advantage Marconi 4 wins, 3 losses. Goals: 13:9.

IN WOLLONGONG

**Wollongong V SYDNEY CITY** at Wollongong Showgrounds, Sunday, 3pm. Previous results: 1981 - SC 1-0.

IN ADELAIDE

**West Adelaide** V FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T. at Hindmarsh Stadium, Sunday, 2.30pm. Previous results: 1977 - WA 1-0, 1-0, 1978 - J.U.S.T. 2-1, 2-2, 1979 - WA 5-0, 1-0, 1980 - WA 2-0, J.U.S.T. 2-0, 1981 - 1-1. Advantage West Adelaide 5 wins, 2 draws, 2 losses. Goals: 14:7.

## MacLeod gets his chance against Lions

**Heidelberg 2  
Footscray JUST 0**

Scorers: Paton 84th, Cole 88th.  
Venue: Olympic Park Melbourne.  
Referee: Graham Neal 7.

**HEIDELBERG:** Oliver 6, McMillan 7, Provan 7, Yzendoorn 7, Yankos 7, Rooney 6, Selemidis 6, Campbell 6, Paton 6, Cole 6, Bozidakis 6.

**FOOTSCRAY JUST:** Boland 7, Hazabent 7, Kyriakoulas 7, Kondarios 7, O'Reilly 6, Milne 6 (Cozzella 65th), Jovanovic 7, Ilioski 6, Kakantonis 6, Verweij 6, Lujic 6.

Crowd: 4000 (estimate).  
Cautions: Paton, Selemidis.

When is Don MacLeod going to make his debut for Heidelberg?

That is the question on the lips of the club supporters after the former Nottingham Forest apprentice warmed the bench for yet another week.

Well, their wishes are about to be granted but coach Len McKendry has been forced by circumstances to put him in the side rather than MacLeod earning his way into the team.

"MacLeod is not as strong as our side is physically at this stage of the season. We have worked hard on him for the past three weeks to get him used to our methods but it takes time," McKendry said.

"It doesn't seem like he learned much at Nottingham Forest. In fact I don't know what they do with their players but they certainly don't coach them."

Nevertheless the Scottish defender is likely to make his debut for Heidelberg this weekend against Brisbane Lions at fullback.

He will replace Charlie Yankos who will be unavailable because of schoolwork.

But whether MacLeod holds on to the spot remains to be seen for Yankos has impressed McKendry since the coach's return to the club.



Len McKendry

**Dick Prendergast**  
**MATCH RATING**  
**6**

The young fullback had another sound game against Footscray in a match where defences were dominant.

The deadlock was broken a few minutes from time when all at the ground had taken it for granted that the match would end in a 0-0 stalemate.

Kyri Kyriakoulas, who played despite still feeling the effects of flu and did a tight marking job on Jamie Paton, headed onto the underside of the crossbar while trying to clear a Jamie Paton shot which had beaten Dennis Boland.

McKendry said Heidelberg had credited Paton with a goal as it would have gone in anyway.

Heidelberg earlier had better luck with their clearances off the line when Footscray were clearly on top.

In the 25th minute Arthur McMillan hooked the ball clear when John Verweij's shot had beaten Jeff Oliver.

And eight minutes later John Yzendoorn came to the keeper's rescue by heading off the line from Zdravko Lujic who had connected with an Ilioski corner.

Heidelberg's best chances came late in the first half and early after the break.

In the 43rd minute Theo Selemidis latched onto the rebound from a Jim Campbell shot which was blocked but despite being well-placed to hammer home, slammed the ball over the crossbar.

Selemidis repeated the act in the first minute of this after being put through by Andy Bozidakis.

Earlier, in the 58th minute, Rooney also broke through onto a Jamie Paton pass but his shot took a deflection and sailed away for a corner.

When all seemed set for the draw, up bobbed Paton for that goal.

JUST then went all out for the equaliser and Gary Cole, until then well marshalled by Jim Kondarios, found the space to hammer home his 12th goal of the season with a rocket from 25 metres which gave Boland no hope as it sailed into the top of the net.

It was poor justice for JUST which had given as good as it got but at least it meant that that none of the Melbourne clubs will have to go cap in hand to seek re-election to the PSL at the end of the season.



Jim Kondarios of JUST rises above the others for a header against Heidelberg. From left: Zdravko Lujic, John Yzendoorn, Arthur McMillan, Kondarios, Theo Selemidis. Picture by LES SHORROCK.

## Xanthopoulos gives Hellas a draw

**Brisbane C. 1  
SM-Hellas 1**

Scorers, BC: Kelso 20th, Hellas: Xanthopoulos 84th.  
Ground: Spencer Park.  
Weather: Fine. Crowd about 1500.

Referee: D. Nugent, 8.  
Cautions: Cummings (SM).  
**BRISBANE CITY** - Wishart 7, Caldwell 7, Dunne 7, Perry 8, W. Wilkinson 7, Garfield 6, Pimblett 7, Ham-His 6 (Vincenzo 58th), Perlinkas 6, P. Wilkinson 6, (Falco 70th), Kelso 7.

**SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS** - Laumets 7, Bannon 7, Lutton 8, Xanthopoulos 7, Nicolaides 7, Rogers 8, Stevenson 6, Shirra 7, Cummings 6, Evans 5 (Campbell 40th, 71), Buljevic 6.

South Melbourne Hellas did well to escape at the death with a thoroughly deserved point from Brisbane City in their postponed match last Wednesday.

Both teams were badly depleted for various reasons. Hellas had Alan Davidson, Steve Blair and Steve Woodin unavailable and in-form skipper Alan Evans was injured and lasted for only 40 minutes.

Bobby Hamilton and Paul Wilkinson were both carrying injuries and failed to see out the match and coach George Potter was forced to introduce an unknown reserve team youngster, Angelo Falco, for his first taste of PSL football.

City had the better of the first half and led at the break with a fine right-foot shot from Barry Kelso, who gave Laumets no chance after accepting a Hamilton pass.

And just after half-time City missed three good chances which could well have wrapped the match up.

From a Hamilton cross, Paul Wilkinson was left completely unmarked and with the goal at his mercy placed a header he normally would have despatched with his eyes closed, well over the bar.

Wilkinson also outjumped Vince Bannon in pursuit of two other crosses but on each occasion he steered his headers 'just wide of the target.'

After that, Hellas came back strongly and had City under pressure for the remainder of the match. It was a strong omen from a team in line for the title.

Yet they had to wait until six minutes from the end, when defender Xanthopoulos rose unchecked to head home a John Stevensen corner. It was a cruel reward for Steve Perry, who had an outstanding match in the middle of the City backline.

## SLICKERS WIN APIA 'WAR'

**Sydney C. 3  
APIA 0**

At the Sydney Athletic Field.  
Conditions: Windy, crowd: 4216.

Scorers: Kosmina 15th, Boden 32nd, Watson 90th.  
Cautions: Skellern, Souness, Wilson, Mullen.

Referee: Jim Reeves 6.  
**SYDNEY CITY:** Clarke 8, Mullen 7, O'Connor 7, Robinson 6, Spanos 6, Souness 8, Barnes 7, Watson 9, Patikas 7, Boden 7, Kosmina 7.  
**APIA LEICHHARDT** - Woodhouse 6, Skellern 6, Wilson 8, Pullen 6, McAusland 7, Coyne 7, Kafka 6 (sub Piria half time), Butler 6, Morsello 6, Soper 7, Giampaolo 6.

This was all-out war, with fistfights going on during play and on the terraces.  
There was certainly no love lost between these two sides and good football was thrust aside to make way for the "hard stuff".

Players went over the ball, had little sly digs behind play and also threw punches.

It's a damned good job they were not really proficient at "clogging" or else there would be a number of players walking around on crutches today.

Once again, the inability of the referee to put a stop to this rough stuff early in the proceedings was the unpunished time.



Tom Anderson

**MATCH RATING:**  
**7**

This season that I have seen referees lose control and it's time something was done about it, otherwise there will be a really bad injury.

As it was, four yellow cards were handed out but all to no avail.

The players realised how much they could get away with and stretched it to the limit. Hard play is one thing, but spiteful, petty stuff is another.

The instigator? Well, it takes two teams to make a war and this is exactly what happened.

The result was that the fight ended in a draw but the match was won by the Slickers and the two valuable points took them to the top of the PSL table.

The Slickers got off to a fine start, when John Kosmina latched onto a ball clearance from the APIA defence in the 15th minute to crash the ball home.

The second came in the 82nd minute when Ken Boden capitalised on a loose moment in the APIA defence to score.

In between these two goals, APIA's Soccerroo goalkeeper Greg Woodhouse saved a Ken Boden penalty kick.

Woodhouse called on all his knowledge when he and Boden were Soccerroo teammates, to dive to his left to stop Boden's well-placed shot in brilliant fashion.

The Slickers' third goal came in the 90th minute when little Joe Watson headed a fine goal.

Watson, who must be five foot nothing, outjumped the APIA defence to head the ball - enough said.

After the game APIA coach Willie Wallace said he was disappointed with the result but said he did not think there was

a three-goal difference between the teams.

Slickers coach Eddie Thomson said it was a very tough game and expected every game from now on to be hard and tough.

"We will play them as they come and I do not expect the remaining few games to be a picnic," Thomson said.

"However, I am confident we are equipped to handle anything that comes our way and now that we're back on top I expect to stay there until the final game is over."

## City seeks top two

Martyn Crook and David Mitchell may be playing with Sydney City Hakohs next year.

Hakohs coach Eddie Thomson is eager to sign both of them.

He went to Melbourne last week to watch them in action for Australia against Fiji.

## Youth team takes over

From page one

junior and youth soccer for the past four years, has lost some of his form since transferring from St. George to Wollongong where he has been unable to win a senior position.

He has however, been playing in the Phillips Youth League.

Fringe players include Gerardo Gomez, Grant Lee (Sydney City), Mark Koussas (Sydney Olympic), Chris Manou (Adelaide City), Ian McKie (West Adelaide), Bruno Cozzella (Footscray JUST), and Howard Tredinick (Newcastle).

Asked to speculate about the make-up of the squad that will contest the world titles, Scheinflug said: "It depends on which boys fight hardest for their places."

The young Soccerroos will have six games in Djakarta during which they will develop their sharpness and teamwork.

They will be in camp in Canberra from September 14 to 28, and have a week's training in Sydney before the youth championships kick off.

During this period they will train twice a day.

Scheinflug has been working with the Sydney-based players every Monday and Thursday, and the Adelaide players have been training together once a week.

"But they've let me down in Melbourne," Scheinflug said. "They haven't got any grounds available there."



Bruce Waddell

**MATCH RATING:**  
**7**

## BILLY DE GRAAF SEEKS TRANSFER

Wollongong utility player Billy de Graaf has been placed on the transfer list at his own request.

The fee is negotiable, but it probably will be about \$4000. De Graaf, 30, can play as striker, midfielder or centre back.

He represented New Zealand 55 times and is in the national squad for the Merdeka Cup tournament.

With 87 goals, he also is the all-time, second-highest scorer in the New Zealand national league.

De Graaf starred as sweeper in the Wollongong team, until coach Ken Morton bought Arno Bertogna from Newcastle KB.

That meant that de Graaf did not play as regularly as he earlier had.





# GENERAL TOURIS

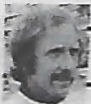
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**DEFINITELY REDUCED FARES FOR SOCCER FANS**



Ajax's first team squad. BACK ROW: Bobby McLachlan (manager-coach), Gerry Bennett, Peter Lewis, Kevin Wall, Gus Macleod, Lou Denys, Michael Lukac, Stuart Cannell, Bill Morrey. FRONT ROW: Alan Bennett, Paul Lewis, Gordon Wallace, Kit Greechan, John Gardiner, David Hogben, Jim Williams. INSET: Willie Vassallo.

## We're out to prove that we're best



By **BOBBY McLACHLAN**  
Ajax coach

I'm insisting that all of my players give a maximum effort against Croatia on Sunday and if they do then we should win.

We're on top of the league and it's not the end of the world if we lose but personally I'd like to beat Croatia.

I'd like to win the state League championship decisively rather than just get there.

Thinking back to some of the things I said last year I remember saying that my aim was to bridge the gap between us and Preston Makedonia and Croatia. That was achieved by finishing third in the league.

With Makedonia gone we have to go one better and prove ourselves to be the best in the league.

I'd say now that people would see us as being at least on a par with Croatia, if not better and winning the league would put us ahead of them.

Today there are not many good games for spectators of State League soccer but our last game against Croatia at Green Gully reserve was thoroughly entertaining. We went at them and they

	Lou DENYS	
Gerry BENNETT	John GARDINER	Peter LEWIS
		David HOGBEN
Kit GREECHAN	Willie VASSALLO	Jim WILLIAMS
Gordon WALLACE	Gus MACLEOD	Bill MORREY

came at us. It was just the thing that people want to see.

Defensive formations won't be the order of the day on Sunday. We'll play our usual attacking game.

You know, some of the teams we've played against this year have ended up with a sweeper playing behind their keeper! That's the sort of defensive attitude they've taken.

And some of those sides said that they'd come at us. Look at George Cross for example. They said they'd attack and spent the day defending.

Possibly if Croatia comes at us it will be easier for our front runners.

We've got the best record in the league with the highest goals for and the lowest goals against. While you are attacking the other side hasn't time to bother you at the back.

The clash between Gus Macleod and Steve Kokoska should be a match highlight. They're two great competitors and a credit to their clubs. In fact if more players showed as much honest endeavour as these two then Australian soccer would be far healthier.

I don't know whether Croatia will use Ken Murphy on the left side of midfield or on the left wing. In the past, though less frequently this year, I've used David Hogben as a tagger and to very good effect too. Earlier in the season I didn't think Hogben would get as many first team games as he has but to his credit he's proven himself worthy every time I've selected him.

If Carl Gilder is fit and plays then it's likely that Stuart Cannell will pick him up. Gilder hasn't had as good a season as he had last year but he's a very good player. He shields the ball well and holds it until his midfielders get forward to support him.

In fact Gilder and Dave Brogan are a really good double up front but again, if we're doing our fair share of attacking then our defenders will get a breather from having to watch Croatia's forwards.

Gordon Wallace has been troubled by a nagging hamstring injury but if he's fully fit he'll be a handful for any Croatia player. Wallace really knows the game. He's one of the few players to come here with a reputation as a class performer and prove that he is.

My midfield hasn't been dominant this year. I've got an exceptionally good forward line and defence but the midfielders haven't really taken command of games the way I would like them to. Possibly our midfield is a weakness.

Croatia will have a formidable line-up on Sunday even if Gilder and Noel Mitten are out through injury. Croatia could play against lower sides and not do too well but could use exactly the same line-up against us and prove formidable. I expect Croatia's players to show their true worth on Sunday.

I think there's a fine line separating these sides but I believe that my squad is as good if not better than any other squad of players in the league.

I'll put 11 players onto the park who I think will get two points for Green Gully Ajax on Sunday, to give us the championship everyone at the club has worked so hard to win.

The Advertisers on this page, wish Croatia all the best for this important match.

## Croatia v Ajax, Olympic

# WHO'LL ENCORE W CURTAIN

By **CRAIG M**

SCENE: Leo's Restaurant in Fitzroy Street. "Soccer Action" assistant editor (I had to get that one in) Craig MacKenzie is sitting down at a small table with officials from Croatia and Ajax, the two clubs which meet on Sunday at Olympic Park in a match which could decide the outcome of the 1981 State League championship.

MACKENZIE: Listen, I can't write a preview on Sunday's game because whichever club I choose the other club is going to give me hell.

CROATIA OFFICIAL: We'll win. Come on Craigie, you like Croatia. You know we can beat the Maltese.

AJAX OFFICIAL: You just write as you see it Craig. I don't have to try and influence you because I know we'll beat Croatia on Sunday.

MACKENZIE: Okay, I'll go for Croatia.

AJAX OFFICIAL: We've just cancelled your order for a club pullover.

CROATIA OFFICIAL: Ha, we already gave MacKenzie a Croatia pullover.

AJAX OFFICIAL: Yeah, but we've paid for all of our pullovers.

CROATIA OFFICIAL (Getting heated): Ha, I know how you pay, too. You take all money for pullovers out of players' wages.

MACKENZIE (Feigning diplomacy): Come on, forget about pullovers. It's Sunday's game that's important. Now how many people do you think we'll get at Olympic Park?

CROATIA OFFICIAL: Maybe 6,000, maybe more. It's a really big game and our supporters will be there to watch us win.

AJAX OFFICIAL: Well I'm expecting a big crowd thanks to all Green Gully people. Of course if Croatia had its own social club like we've got then it would have more to offer the supporters.

CROATIA OFFICIAL (getting heated again): You can drink and eat in the bar after, better than at the rubbish tip!

AJAX OFFICIAL (takes the bait): If all we've got is a rubbish tip then it's a damn sight more than you've got!

MACKENZIE: Croatia tip and neither has Ajax plans to lease one more story there. We could do the front page. Sometime the Scrapheap or the Soccer is Rubbish!

CROATIA OFFICIAL: Croatia shows I have a good idea for all Ajax players. They all below player is Johnny Gardiner at start of the year.

AJAX OFFICIAL: And the championship with sell him back to you. 'cause that's how good gain when you sold him you have any more like them for \$5000 each.

CROATIA OFFICIAL: Johnny Gardiner. We've koska and they're better Gardiners.

AJAX OFFICIAL: Well you've got a good point!

CROATIA OFFICIAL: point, yes.

AJAX OFFICIAL: Yes! least two of your players one of ours.

MACKENZIE (stepping exchanged): Listen, call sake. Who cares now who? Just wait until Sunday!

CROATIA OFFICIAL: I beat them on Sunday. I now. Brogan and maybe for them. I know we did we can early this year, but to our best. We'll win, 11 (pointing to the Ajax official).

AJAX OFFICIAL: Put your mouth is, my friend!

CROATIA OFFICIAL: say we win.

AJAX OFFICIAL: You bet.

## RECENT HISTORY

AJAX 2 (Wall, Macleod) CROATIA 2 (Adams pen., Mitten) at Olympic Park, Ampol Cup semi final. Ajax won 5-4 on penalties. MATCH RATING: 8. Referee: Henderson 8.

AJAX: Denys 7 — Lewis 7, Gardiner 8, Connell 8, Smart 7 — G. Bennett 7, Vassallo 7, Greechan 8 — Wall 7, Macleod 9, Morrey 7.

CROATIA: Blasby 6 — Short 7, Kokoska 7, Kerr 7, Blavner 7 — Tront 6, Adams 7, Murphy 6 — Batonic 6, Gilder 7, Mitten 6.

CROATIA 3 (Gilder (Macleod pen.) at Olympic Cup, first round. MATCH RATING: 5. Referee: Fearns 5.

CROATIA: Blasby 7, kokoska 7, Kerr 8, Billa Adams 7, Murphy 7, Gilder 7, Mitten 7.

AJAX: Denys 6, Cannell 7, Gardiner 8, Hogben 5, G. Bennett 7, Wall 6, Macleod 7, M



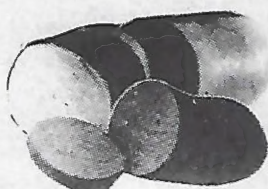
Steve Kokoska (left) of Croatia and Ajax's Gus Macleod — two fierce competitors.



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## GET THE WHEN THE FALLS?

**MACKENZIE**

MACKENZIE: Can I hold the money?

This exchange took place two days ago. Since then I've had time to consider what I should say about Sunday's game.

I've been saying why me God, why me? I just can't separate these sides.

A draw would suit Ajax. It would keep its leadership to the league intact and almost would assure it of its first ever State League championship.

So what am I going to do?

I don't want to preview this game and I'm not going to?

Let's talk about something else, money perhaps.

I wonder, overall, which set of players is highest paid — Croatia players or their Ajax counterparts?

Does Bobby McLachlan, Ajax's coach (oops, sorry Bobby, I forgot. That should read manager-coach) get more money to manager-coach than Dujie Zemunik, Croatia's trainer-coach, gets to trainer-coach?

Does Ajax treasurer Arnold Langer bet heavily on the outcome of Ajax's games? More heavily than Croatia's president Joe Sigur bets on the outcome of Croatia's games?

Which club will offer the bigger bonus to its players for winning Sunday's game?

What percentage of the gate money will go into the coffers of Olympic Park's board of Management?

Will Guy Spiteri, Ajax president, make an outrageous prediction about the outcome of the match?

Will Craig MacKenzie be institutionalised after writing this preview?

The answers to these questions are Ajax, Yes, No, Croatia, Don't Know, Yes and Probably.

Go to Olympic Park on Sunday if you want to know the answer to the question as to which club is going to win the 1981 State League championship.

## AVORS CROATIA

(Mitten) AJAX 1  
e Park, Philips  
H Rating: 6.

Short 7, Ko-  
7 - Tront 7,  
Batinovic 7,

Peter Lewis 7,  
Chilly 6 -  
Vassallo 6 -  
sy 7.

AJAX 0 CROATIA 1 (Mitten) at Green  
Gully Reserve. State League. MATCH  
RATING: 8. Referee: Bambridge 7.

AJAX: Denys 8 - Peter Lewis 7,  
Gardiner 8, Cannell 7, G. Bennett 8 -  
Greechan 7, Vassallo 6, Williams 6 -  
Wallace 6 (inj. Wall H.T. 5), Macleod 5,  
Morrey 8.

CROATIA: Blasby 7 - Short 8, Ko-  
koska 8, P. Bannon 8, Bilaver 6 -  
Adams 7, Kerr 6, Andrews 6 (Mitten  
73rd) - Brogan 7, Gilder 7, Murphy 8.



Croatia's first team squad, left to right: BACK ROW: Paddy Bannon, Steve Kokoska, Elvio Pugliese, Peter Blasby, Noel Mitten, Alan Kerr, Ned Batinovic, Howard Andrews. FRONT ROW: Ante Bilaver, Brian Keenan, Keith Adams, Steve Short, Ken Murphy, Dave Brogan.

## NO WORRIES, CROATIA WILL WIN



By DUJIE ZEMUNIK,  
Croatia coach

We're better than Ajax. Our players will prove this on Sunday.

The Croatia players didn't show the form this year they showed in previous years but now they are keen to win the league.

There are many reasons why our players until recently haven't performed to expectations. I believe that coaching and committee changes unsettled them but now we stick together and the spirit at the club is good.

I believe in the players. I know they're better than Ajax's players.

We have a few injury worries but I'm hoping



Carl Gilder

that Carl Gilder will be fully fit for Sunday.

Steve Kokoska is playing his best soccer of the season. If he marks Gus Macleod close then Macleod won't be able to do much. Kokoska is not a particularly skilful player but he's very hard physically and wins every high ball. He's the sort of player who gives you everything he's got for 100 minutes let alone the full 90 minutes of the game.

Ken Murphy hasn't been at his best recently but he's a big game player and he should hit his straps on Sunday. I have talked with Ken about what he has been doing wrong this season. He's been trying to do too much with the ball. I want him to play the game more simple. When he beats a man he should draw another opponent then lay-off the ball to a team mate. Then he can use his explosive speed to run off the ball looking for the return.

Ken has skill, speed and a terrific shot.

Dave Brogan is one of the best buys Croatia has made in the past 10 years as far as I'm concerned.

Peter  
BLASBY

Steve  
SHORT

Steve  
KOKOSKA

Danny  
RAMLJAK

Ante  
BILAVAR

Keith  
ADAMS

Paddy  
BANNON

Joe  
TRONT

Dave  
BROGAN

Carl  
GILDER

Ken  
MURPHY

He's a great all round-player.

I'll play with three forwards but I'll probably instruct one of them to push up onto Ajax sweeper John Gardiner.

I know John's game well and we'll try to break up Ajax's rhythm by pushing a player onto John whenever Ajax keeper Lou Denys has the ball.

For variety I like Peter Blasby to sometimes kick the ball long downfield because too often in the State League if you start to build up play from the back it takes too long for the ball to get down to your forwards and they are marked when it gets there.

I've switched Paddy Bannon from playing at

the back to taking a more prominent role in the centre of our midfield because he has good ball control, good disposal and he builds up play well. He also has been going forward recently and grabbing a couple of goals.

Paddy has a great amount of PSL experience behind him and he's played very well for us this season in fact he has given Croatia great service for the short time he's been with the club.

Young Danny Ramljak is a fine player for his age and he does the job I ask him to do. This is a big game for the club and he realises that.

I think Keith Adams is

having his best season in the State League. He's a versatile player who can play in many positions and he reads play very well.

The 1981 State League title is very important to Croatia. It's important to win it if we want to get into the PSL and it's important to our supporters that we keep winning.

The way I see it is that we have to win every game from now on. That's not an easy task but I know that we are capable of doing it.

I've got no worries about Ajax though because we'll beat them for sure. Every one of our players will improve his recent efforts by about 20% in Sunday's game and we'll win.

## WIN FREE TICKETS!

"Soccer Action" is giving away single passes to Sunday's clash between Croatia and Green Gully Ajax at the first 20 people to come to our offices at Newspress, 603 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, either today (Wednesday) or tomorrow between 10 and 12 am.

The winners must also answer ONE of these questions:

A. Croatia and Green Gully Ajax have met three times this year, in the Ampol and Philips

Cups and in the State League. What were the results of those games?

B. One of the players in Sunday's game has played for both Croatia and Green Gully Ajax. What is his name?

C. Two players taking part in Sunday's game have played over 100 consecutive games for their clubs. One plays for Croatia, the other plays for Ajax. Can you name them?

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# BUFFALO SPORTS

# BUFFALO

## Bannon hits lead

Ameco Travel's State League Player of the Year will win a return trip for two to Spain, tickets to World Cup games including the semi-finals and final, travel to and from the grounds and hotel accommodation including dinner, bed and breakfast. The total value of the Ameco Travel award is in excess of \$3,500.

**This week's votes:**  
**NORTHCOLE V FRANKSTON**  
 3 — Stewart (F)  
 2 — Holford (F)  
 1 — Lasbrel (F)  
**HAKOAH V CROATIA**  
 3 — Adams (C)  
 2 — P. Bannon (C)  
 1 — Brogan (C)  
**GEORGE CROSS V ALTONA**  
 3 — Wilkinson (GC)  
 2 — Whelan (A)  
 1 — Innes (A)

### RINGWOOD V CROYDON

3 — Pasman (R)  
 2 — Denridder (Croy)  
 1 — McCombe (Croy)

### AJAX V JUVENTUS

3 — Gardner (GCA)  
 2 — Macleod (GCA)  
 1 — A. Bennett (GCA)

### DOVETON V SUNSHINE

3 — McRoberts (S)  
 2 — McNally (S)  
 1 — Christie (D)

### PROGRESSIVE VOTES:

22 — P. Bannon (C)  
 21 — French (H)  
 18 — Cannell (GCA), Wilkinson (GC)  
 17 — Gardner (GCA), G. Bannon (GC), Stewart (F)

### HAKOAH 1 (Dosen)

### CROATIA 3

(Batinovic 2, P. Bannon)

**HAKOAH:** Fryzler 7 — Rooney 6, Hann 5, Gadsby 5, Davidson 6  
**McNally 7 (Thomson 72nd), Wilson 6, French 6, Kent 7 (Nagy H.T. 7) — Dosen 6 (sent off 39th), Webster 6.**

**CROATIA:** Blasby 8 — Short 8, Kokoska 8, Ramjani 7, Blavner 6 — Adams 9, P. Bannon 8, Tront 7 — Batinovic 7, Brogan 8, Murphy 7, Webster 6.

Paddy Bannon had the last

laugh on Anton Dosen and Peter Blasby pulled off a spectacular penalty save as Croatia kept on course for Sunday's State League title showdown with Ajax.

Bannon and Dosen clashed in the 38th minute. The burly Hakoah player, figuring in a new role as a front runner, was sent off. Hakoah was reduced to 10 men but led 1-0 at the time.

Hakoah played on the break.

I expected to see Steve Kokoska picking up Dosen but the Hakoah striker pulled mainly wide on the right and was responsible for the two scores which Hakoah threw into the Croatia camp early in this clash.

Twice Dosen crossed ended with Ian McNeil. From the first McNeil shot over and his second chance found him heading wide.

Graham French sent a delicately weighted chip over the head of Croatia's square back four and Dosen headed down firmly off in the second half the near upright.

Then the Dosen-Bannon incident took place. Within a minute of Dosen's sending off scores were level.

Dave Brogan played a superb ball in behind a Hakoah defender to Keith Adams charging down Croatia's left. Adams cut the ball back into Ned Batinovic's path and he sidestepped in.

Then up popped Bannon right on the stroke of half time to slide down at the near post and guide the ball past Mike Fryzler.

Hakoah looked down and out. I was scratching my head in disbelief when the side kicked off in the second half. Chris Kent was replaced at



half time by Les Nagy and I thought Kent did well in the opening stanza.

Five minutes into this half Hakoah well and truly blew its chances. Nagy burst into the area and was brought down by Kokoska.

French looked set to level but didn't reckon on the agility and reflexes of Blasby. I've got no doubts that Blasby moved before French took his penalty attempt but that's all part of the game. Indeed few penalty saves would be possible if keepers didn't move early. Blasby dived to his right, low down, and parried the ball out into French's path. The Hakoah midfielder blasted toward the roof of the net but Blasby had bounced up and made a breathtaking one handed save to knock the ball over the bar.

That was as far as Hakoah got to salvaging a point. Batinovic nabbed his second and Croatia's third goal when he gleefully accepted Brogan's square pass and slipped the ball home from five metres out.

# BARBERS FUMING POWERS RETURN

## The Victorian Leagues

**Provisional First Division club Mooroolbark is seeking legal advice to reverse an eight year old VSF resolution which denied the Barkers from gaining promotion to Metropolitan Fourth Division.**

Mooroolbark was two points adrift of second placed team South Oakleigh. The Barkers had a game in hand against Hotham United, recently expelled from the league.

To complicate matters South Oakleigh and Mooroolbark had the same goal difference. South Oakleigh had 48 goals for and 18 against, Mooroolbark had 45 goals for and 15 against.

So the Barkers needed just one more goal to jump ahead of South Oakleigh and win a ticket back to the Metropolitan Leagues.

The VSF gave Mooroolbark a win against the expelled Hotham but recorded a 0-0 scoreline. South Oakleigh, having scored more goals than the Barkers, clinched second spot in the league to join Thomastown as the promoted sides.

Apparently Mooroolbark only could have been awarded a 3-0 walkover provided Hotham had played ineligible players. Obviously that wasn't the case. Hotham had been expelled and the game never took place.

But before Hotham was kicked out of the competition it was beaten 3-0 by South Oakleigh in the first game of the second half of the season.

Mooroolbark is confident that it would have beaten Hotham. It objects to the VSF not granting it a two or three goal walkover.

"How can a side not be granted promotion when it has been unable to fulfil its league commitment?" asked Barkers' player-coach Ian Williamson.

"We're prepared to take our case as far as possible. Our sponsor is right behind us and will back us to the hilt," he added.

"Whichever way you look at this thing it seems that we have been unfairly treated. We'll even accept a play-off against South Oakleigh if the VSF can't give us the result we believe we fairly deserve. Then let the best team win and gain promotion."

Here is a complete list of all clubs promoted and relegated for the 1981 season in the Metropolitan and Provisional Leagues. Unfortunately District League results weren't available at the time we went to press.

**Metro First Division:** UP — Polonia and Albion Rovers. DOWN — Slavia and Moreland.

**Metro Second Division:** UP — Fawkner, Frankston Pines, DOWN — South Melbourne Hellas and Waverley.

**Metro Third Division:** UP — Bell Park and Ringwood United, DOWN — Yallourn and Eltham.

**Metro Fourth Division:** UP — Mornington and Sunbury, DOWN — Fernerite Gully and Chelsea.

**Provisional First Division:** UP — Thomastown and South Oakleigh, DOWN — Carlton and Melton.

**Provisional Second Division:** UP — North Geelong and Ballarat, DOWN — Langwarrin and Clayton.

**Provisional Third Division:** UP — Rosanna and Regent, DOWN — Kyneton and West Melbourne.

### FIRST DIVISION

**BOX HILL 2 (Tolmie 48 min., 89 min.) KEW PARK RANGERS 2 (Savage 14 min., Williams 86 min.)**

**BOX HILL:** Morgan, McLeod, Lawlor, Rao, Singleton, Darlington (Vehic 22 min.), Tolmie, Ramos, (Patterson, K. 30 min.), Valentine, Taylor, Patterson, S.

**KEW PARK RANGERS:** Vasilovic, Scott, Spalding, Nisbet, Stuart.

Savage, Gibson, Parsons, Dali, McLeod, Williams.

Two goals by ex-Arbroath midfielder Ray Tolmie, enabled Box Hill to share the points with an enthusiastic Kew Park Rangers, in their final league match of the season at Wembley Park on Saturday.

The opening seconds almost brought a goal for the Hillmen, when Mike Valentine crossed from the left only fractionally too high for Ray Taylor, flying in on the far post. Minutes later Scott Patterson missed a good chance after Tolmie had put him through the middle, but Vasilovic came off his line well, and managed to block the shot.

Then in the 14th minute Kew Park Rangers mounted an attack down the right flank. Williams crossed into the danger area, and Parsons, hurtling in on the far post, managed to get his head to the ball but could not control it. The ball flew straight up in the air, and Rangers big striker McLeod deflected it as it fell to Williams, whose shot was blocked by Billy Rae. But Andy Savage made no mistake with the rebound, driving it hard and low into the corner of the net to open the scoring.

A sensational opening to the second half saw the home side equalise in the 48th minute. Peter Verechia picked up a long clearance from Graham Morgan, and sent Greg McLeod racing up the field with a beautifully angled pass. McLeod drew Nisbet out of the middle and turned the ball inside for Tolmie, who had made good ground, to drive the ball through a crowd of players for the equaliser.

Four minutes from the end, when it looked as if both sides were prepared to settle for a draw, a mixup between Scott Patterson and Tolmie left Williams in possession of the edge of the area. He quickly picked up the fact that Morgan was out of position, and his delicate foot arched high over the helpless keeper and into the top left hand corner of the net.

Rangers were ecstatic, but the Hillmen were not finished. In the 89th minute Ray Taylor chased a long ball up the middle deep into the visitors' territory, and, brushing off the attentions of Nisbet, crossed low and hard across the goal. Rangers goalmouth, Valentine coming up just fast failed to

make contact, and the opportunity looked to have been lost. Peter Verechia however had other ideas, he retrieved the ball wide on the right and crossed back into the middle where once again the hard working Tolmie was on hand to force it past a despairing defence.

Congratulations to the young Box Hill reserve side which drew 0-0 with Kew Park Rangers reserves and clinched the First Division reserves title.

### SECOND DIVISION PRESTON MAKEDONIA 0 ARDEER 1 (Schuliga)

**MAKEDONIA:** Demiris, Ristovski, Stoyanovski, Higham, Christou, Nizinski, Maganov, Opasidis, Nelson, Nolan (Staios 71st), O'Connor (Atanasovski 68th).

**ARDEER:** Darch, Orlinski, Boncinski, Olinowski, Smetanska, Kuczynski, J. Christoudas, Kalanovic, Schuliga, N. Christoudas, Solisba.

Ardeer had more of the play and deserved this victory, which was achieved through a goal by Wally Schuliga in the 72nd minute.

Makedonia played without three of its stars — Brian Coyle, Neil Coyle and Jim Bevelly who were suspended. Con Demiris, John Higham, Con Opasidis and Arthur Christou were Makedonia's best players.

### DOVETON 1 (Cherrie) SUNSHINE 2 (McRobert, McNally)

**DOVETON:** Ivanoff 7 — Thurlow 7, Merrick 7, Corks 7, McConville 7, McLea 7, Bentley 7, Whitlock 6 (Guin 65th) — Whitehurst 7 (McLaughlin 75th), Cherrie 8, Irvine 6.

**SUNSHINE:** Contini 5 — Lowe 8 — Dwyer 8, Ellis 8, Scerri 8, Taylor 8 — Esposito 8 (Musall 75th), Nelson 8, McNally 9 — Bain 8, McRobert 9.

The appointed referee for this game turned up late so a linesman took over and figured in a controversial decision in the 90th minute which denied home side Doveton from stealing a point from improving Sunshine.

The Shiners played to their pre-match plan of trying to catch Doveton on the break with John McNally instructed to break through down the left. The visitors to Waratah Reserve hit the front in the 30th minute thanks to a superb Jim McRobert goal. The move started when Steve Ellis gained possession just inside his defensive half and played a one-two with McNally, then sent Chris Taylor down the left. Taylor crossed the McRobert who struck a spectacular first time volley past Ivo Ivanoff.

But a bad back pass from Nick Lowe in the 37th minute led to Doveton's reply. Lowe

### RINGWOOD 1 (O'Riley) CROYDON 1 (Wade)

**RINGWOOD:** Fear 7 — Pasman 9, Brooks 7, Luyten 8, Verniers 7 — O'Riley 8, O'Callaghan 8, Thom 6 (O'Brien 60th), Groenewald 7 — Greener 7, Malt 7.

**CROYDON:** Edwards 8 — Brown 8, Denridder 8, McCombe 8, Nelson 7 — Spink 8, Wade 8, Howarth 7 (Smith 80th) — P. Loughane 7, I. Loughane 7, Bakker 7.

Ringwood snatched a valuable point in its quest to stay clear of second bottom spot in the league but this local derby was a dismal, boring affair.

A Ringwood mistake gave Croydon an goal lead in the 44th minute. Paul Wade pounced on a poor pass back by Ron Verniers. Nonetheless Ringwood keeper Les Fear must shoulder part of the blame for allowing Wade to

### Edwards great

dispossess him and stroke the ball into the empty goal.

The game only came to life when the home side levelled in the 75th minute. Ringwood substitute Noel O'Brien nudged Gary Hobson who fouled him. O'Brien still was in possession and play was waved on as he hammered the ball across goal for Paul O'Riley to head firmly home.

It was Ringwood who would have stolen both points in the last 10 minutes but for two spectacular saves from Croydon keeper Les Fear. One in particular, a full length dive to tip wide an Ian Greener volley, certainly salvaged a point for Croydon.

# Cherrie still puzzled



counting McNally made no mistake from four metres.

Controversy erupted in the 80th minute. Steve Irvine's shot hit the underside of the bar and rebounded. As the ball bounced out from goal Cherrie and a Sunshine defender challenged. Cherrie flung himself at the ball and headed home with the defender's foot near his chest. The ref and his linesman both gave the goal, then unaccountably the referee reversed his decision and gave a free kick to Sunshine presumably for dangerous play.

I spoke to Cherrie after the match and he told me that he asked the ref about his decision.

"The referee said to me he was giving a free kick for dangerous play but it wasn't against me," said Cherrie.

"If you can work that one out let me know the answer. If the free wasn't against me then surely the ref should have awarded a goal or a penalty to Doveton."

### Adams player of week

Every week "Soccer Action" nominates a State League Player of the Week who wins a dinner for two at Leo's Restaurant, 55 Fitzroy Street, St. Kilda.

The winner can pick up his ticket from "Soccer Action," 603 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne. At Leo's the winner should ask for the manager, Carlo Geronzi.

This week's winner is Croatia midfielder KEITH ADAMS.

## Pines' gala day

Frankton Pines, promoted to First Division, will have a gala day at its ground on Saturday.

It will start with an under 13 match between Pines and Seaford, filmed by Channel 0-28 for the "Captain Soccer" programme. At 2pm, a show-biz all-star team will meet a Pines selection of former stars, including Jack Reilly, Frankie Loughran, Eric Heath, Duncan McKay and Tommy Randles.

A cabaret at the clubrooms, starting at 8pm, will wind up what should be a memorable day.

## Cheltenham wins challenge

**CHELTEHAM HIGH SCHOOL 5 (Lantouris 2, Ayuyce 2, Kyimaz) GILLES PLAINS 0.** Annual challenge match at Cheltenham High School.

**CHELTEHAM:** Guest 9 — Vasilovic 9, Dragovich 9, Gouglanis 9, Kokkalis 9 — Ouk 9, Limberis 9, Duman 9 — Ayuyce 9, Kyimaz 9, Lantouris 9.

**GILLES PLAINS:** Stone 6 — Karmesic 6, Korver 6, Cooke 6, Philby Ravesteyn 6 — Paul Ravesteyn 7, Jordine 7, Arias 8, Howelling 6 — Brake 7, Fobig 6.

Cheltenham High School ran out a convincing victor after scoring three first half goals into a strong wind.

The visitors from South Australia had no answer to the home team's

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## Sunshine wants to shut Cross's mouth

Sunshine reckons that a few George Cross players are getting too big for their boots now that the Cross is in the top four.

And the Shiners will be out to bring Cross back down to earth when they clash at Chaplin Reserve on Sunday.

"There's a fair bit of money hanging on the result of Sunday's game and we'll give Cross a fright," said Sunshine official Alex Alekic.

"Some of the Cross players were thanking us for helping them to get into fourth spot in the league but we'll kick them out of the top four on the weekend."

Sunshine's defeat of Doveton allowed Cross to grab a top four berth after a dismal 1-0 win against Altona. Cross coach Jim Adam was disappointed with his side's performance.

"We're delighted to be in the top four but our win against Altona was disappointing. A draw would have been a fair result," said Adam.

"The last time we played Sunshine it was an exciting match which could have gone either way. I'm looking forward to Sunday's game and we should do well if we perform to our capability."

I think Cross will win with Ged Bannan back after serving an automatic one week suspension due to the accumulation of too many penalty points.

And Bobby Tool was sick before Sunday's game against Altona. A fit Tool will worry the life out of Sunshine's defence.

Roger Bain and Norrie Pate are the men Sunshine hopes will rest upon but the Shiners' strikers will find Billy Wilkinson and Norm Maitland an experienced, uncompromising central defensive combination.

The clash of the round, between Croatia and Ajax at Olympic Park on Sunday, is previewed on pages eight and nine of this issue.

Croydon and Hakoah have disappointed recently so they have a



Victorian State League  
with CRAIG MACKENZIE

lot of lost prestige to make up when they meet at Croydon Park on Sunday.

Kim Wassell flew back to England on Thursday, disillusioned with the State League scene.

So much for Croydon's \$2000 investment. That's how much Wassell cost when he transferred from Doveton earlier in the season.

Wassell came, saw and didn't think it was worth conquering. He was passed up by Croydon late last year and recommended to the Doves. His short stay at Doveton was stormy. He clashed with Doveton coach Danny McMinimee.

Wassell always was outspoken in the many conversations I had with him. He didn't rate the State League highly and often spoke about trying his luck in the PSL in 1982. He was the butt of criticism from some Doveton supporters who saw him as a prima donna. The truth is that Wassell didn't suit Doveton's style. Not for him the chasing and tackling back which has proved so successful for the Doves in their inaugural State League season.

Wassell has skill to burn. No doubt about that. He just wanted to enjoy his game doing what he does best — playing up front wide on the left where he can taunt and tease opposing full backs and use his fine disposal to good advantage.

Croydon may have to settle for a point against Hakoah on Sunday. Richie McClunie could come back to the Hakoah front line.

Hakoah coach Bill Allison used Anton Dosen up front against Croatia but Dosen was sent off so the scene is set for McClunie's reincarnation.

Graham French is the key to Hakoah's fortunes. He must play a commanding role in midfield if Hakoah is to do well.

If Juventus doesn't beat Frankston at Centenary Park on Sunday then the big drop into the Metropolitan Leagues almost is certain.

Juve is just about on its last legs and Frankston won't show any mercy on Sunday.

I'm tipping the Baysiders to win. I can't see Juventus defenders Tony Curcio, Peter Donaldson, Pat Della Rocca and Harry Hird standing firm against the Frankston onslaught led by the quicksilver Charlie Egan. Alongside Egan, Billy Buchanan's experience and Graham Tutill's fine close ball skills should nab both points for the home side.

As Juve could plunge further into deep water if Ringwood's visit to Kim Reserve on Sunday to take on Altona proves worthwhile.

I think that Ringwood will grab a point here. Altona easily could have picked up points in recent weeks and I expect the home side to give Mike de Bruyckere's visitors a scare.

Doveton still entertains hopes of grabbing fourth spot in the league and a place in the 1981 State League Cup competition.

I don't think the Doves will do it and I think they'll have to settle for a draw on Sunday against Northcote at John Cain Reserve.

Croatia v Ajax (draw) at Olympic Park, Sunday, 3 pm.

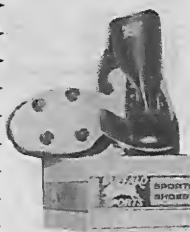
Sunshine v GEORGE CROSS at Chaplin Reserve, Sunday, 3 pm.

Altona v Ringwood (draw) at Kim Reserve, Sunday, 3 pm.

Croydon v Hakoah (draw) at Croydon Park, Sunday, 3 pm.

FRANKSTON v Juventus at Centenary Park, Sunday, 3 pm.

Northcote v Doveton (draw) at John Cain Reserve, Sunday, 3 pm.



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## TUTILL NABS WIN FOR FRANKSTON

NORTHCOTE 2 (Campbell o.g., Sahinidisa) FRANKSTON 3 (Tutill 2, Egan)

NORTHCOTE: Tachiris 6 - Nelson 6, Petrucci 6, Popovic 7, Petrovic 6 - Fakas 6, Boskic 6, Kallitidis 6, Mousas 6 (Vasic 60th) - Kallitidis 7, Sahinidisa 7.

FRANKSTON: Gilbert 7 - Irvine 7, Adams 6 (Thompson H.T. 6), Stewart 9, Campbell 7 - Goldby 7 (Burroughs 70th), Holford 9, Lashley 8 - Buchanan 7, Egan 7, Tutill 8.

Frankston turned the tables on Northcote and snatched victory with a goal in the 88th minute.

It was sweet revenge for the Baysiders who had gone down 2-1 to the Northerners earlier in the season thanks to a last minute goal.

The visitors to John Cain Reserve hit the front in the 25th minute when Bill Buchanan crossed from the right and Charlie Egan nipped in before "Rocky" Tachiris could gain possession and stroll the ball into the unguarded goal.

But a crazy own goal from Frankston veteran Norrie Campbell sent the sides in at the break locked together.

A long free kick downfield found Campbell some 25 metres from goal. The tall defender headed the ball high toward his goal and it bounced over Gilbert's head.

Frankston recovered its lead 15 minutes into the second half when Graham Tutill, lurking at the far post, gained possession from a glancing header from Buchanan at the near post. Tutill smashed the ball high into the roof of the Northcote goal.

The Baysiders were caught on the break in the 70th minute. Milan Kojic set up Jim Sahinidisa for a spectacular volley from just outside the area which gave Gilbert no hope.

Just when it looked like a draw was on the cards up popped Tutill, following in on an Egan header which Tachiris parried.



Charlie Egan — Frankston goal machine

## CANNEL SENT OFF!

AJAX 3 (Greechan, MacLeod, Morrey) JUVENTUS 0.

AJAX: Denny 7 - Peter Lewis 7, Gardiner 8, Cannell 8 (sent off 60th), G. Bennett 8 (in), Williams 35th, 71 - Greechan 7, A. Bennett 8, Hegben 8 - Watt 7, MacLeod 8, Morrey 7.

### Top scorers

General Tourist sponsors our State League Top Scorer award. The winner receives a return trip for two to New Zealand. Leading scorers are:

16. L. Loughnane (Croy), MacLeod (Croy)  
15. Egan (F)  
12. Sahinidisa (N)

JUVENTUS: Hawke 6 - Curcio 6, Della Rocca 6, Donaldson 6, Hird 7 - Smith 6, Cavallari 6, Cunningham 6, Heury 5 (Corbett 75th) - Ristovski 8 (Vaccaro 70th), Incantalupo 7.

Stuart Cannell was sent off in the 60th minute after clashing with Juventus youngster Fabio Incantalupo but once reduced to 10 men Ajax took up the challenge and ran out a convincing winner.

Cannell now is ineligible for the Rothmans Medal.

Gerry Bennett was injured in the 35th minute and was replaced by Jim Williams. David Hogben switched back to full back allowing Williams to

adopt his customary midfield role.

The Green Gully Reserve locals played well against a stiff breeze in the first half and took the lead when Gus MacLeod headed Kevin Wall's cross back across goal to Kit Greechan who volleyed in from near the penalty spot.

Ajax appeared complacent with the wind at its back in the second 45 minutes until the Cannell - Incantalupo incident took place. From then on it was Ajax's 10 men who did most of the pressing.

MacLeod outjumped everyone in the 70th minute to score with a fine header and Billy Morrey completed Juve's

demise in the 85th minute when his cross deceived Juve keeper Terry Hawke and sailed into the roof of the net.

Cannell's loss is a blow to Ajax as it prepares for Sunday's battle with Croatia but Gordon Wallace should be fit after missing the Juventus game.



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### TEAM OF THE WEEK

BLASBY (Croatia)

PASMAN (R'wood)

GARDINER (Ajax)

STEWART (F'ton)

WILKINSON (G. Cross)

ADAMS (Croatia)

P. BANNON (Croatia)

HOLFORD (F'ton)

WHYTE (Altona)

MACLEOD (Ajax)

MORROBERT (S' shine)

### STATE LEAGUE

GG-AJAX.....	14	2	3	40	10	30
CROATIA.....	11	6	2	38	15	28
CROYDON CITY.....	8	7	4	33	21	23
GEORGE CROSS.....	10	2	7	27	18	22
DOVETON.....	5	11	3	22	21	21
HAKOAH.....	5	8	6	23	31	18
NORTHCOTE CITY.....	7	4	8	31	42	18
FRANKSTON CITY.....	7	3	9	28	29	17
SUNSHINE CITY.....	7	3	9	29	31	17
WILHELMINA.....	5	4	10	25	40	14
JUVENTUS.....	4	4	11	15	33	12
ALTONA CITY.....	2	4	13	18	38	8

### Crucial miss by Innes

GEORGE CROSS 1 (Gambin) ALTONA 0.

GEORGE CROSS: Gay 5 - Morgan 6, Maitland 7, Wilkinson 8, McKinley 7 - Farmer 6 (Mizzi 70th), Rigby 6, Gambin 7 - Paparone 5, Tool 8, T. Kent 5 (McCann H.T. 6).

ALTONA: Marnishi 7 - Thompson 7, Kilpatrick 6, Cooper 6 (in), Hamill 70th, K. Wilson 7 - Jones 8, Mercer 7, Innes 8 - Watters 5, Whyte 8, Little 7.

Altona's Kevin Innes must be rueing his crucial last minute miss when he blasted the ball over from four metres.

And Damien Morgan almost qualified for the best own goal of the year when he decided to pass back to keeper Oliver Gay from 35 metres out. Morgan sent the ball sailing over Gay's head and onto the upright. The ball bounced back, allowing Gay to retrieve it. It was indicative of Altona's luck in this match.

Cross scored in the first minute when Rathman Marnishi mistimed his jump for a Paul Gambin cross, allowing the ball to go over his head and into the roof of the net.

Cross had three good chances in the second half but Altona put Billy Wilkinson and Norm Maitland under pressure for long periods. I know it's getting repetitive but Altona's finishing is woeful.

Altona player-coach Billy Whyte created five clear cut chances for his team mates.

Maybe next year the Kim Reserve side will entice a quality finisher into its fold as it strives to regain its State League status.

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"Rocky" Tachiris, goalkeeper of Victorian State League club Northcote, flies to Austria on Monday, August 24 to trial with First Division club Admira Wacker.

Tachiris, 21, is in his second season with the Northerners after an extensive junior career with South Melbourne Hellas.

The youngster works part time at the Vital Sports Centre in Melbourne and a workmate arranged for him to head for the professional hustle and bustle of European soccer.

Tachiris has corresponded with Admira president Frank Geschel, currently in Madrid on the look out for players to bolster Admira's championship challenge for the 1981-82 season.

Geschel's club finished in the top four of the First Division last season.

Tachiris joined Northcote in 1980 from Provisional League club Clifton Hill. The young keeper earned his nickname of "Rocky" after clashing with Juventus star Bobby McGuinness in the 1981 Ampol Cup. McGuinness now plays with Queensland State League club Townsville.

Tachiris started as a junior with Hellas when he was nine years old. He spent the first six months of competitive soccer on the right wing. Present day Hellas second string keeper Lou Tsigaras was

"Rocky" Tachiris is down but not out. He's just pulled off a fine save and former team mate Marko Karapatsos bends down to congratulate the young goalkeeper.

## 'Rocky' heads for the big time overseas

By CRAIG MacKENZIE

goalkeeper at the time but Tsigaras was injured before a junior cup final and the reserve keeper didn't turn up.

Tachiris was asked to go into goal which he did but Hellas was beaten 4-2 in that final.

"It was a nerve racking experience for a 10 year old, playing in goal for the first time and a cup final at that," said Tachiris.

"You have to be confident to do well as a keeper. You have to have control of your mind because you are responsible for everything, the good and the bad.

"Some people say you have to be crazy to be a keeper. They say we're a different breed. Maybe we are. There's not too many players who relish diving at the feet of an opponent

or flinging themselves about goal like an acrobat."

As Tachiris got older he assumed the first team keeper's role in the Hellas juniors as Tsigaras was often on the bench for the senior team, then in the Victorian State League.

Tachiris was coached as were many Hellas stars past and present by Oscar Montalva.

"Oscar was a good coach, really disciplined but he didn't show great faith in me. Actually I lost momentum under him and I became disillusioned with Hellas so I left the club to concentrate on my studies. "I was doing a Business Studies course at Lalor High School.

"It was a frustrating period for me. I still loved soccer so I continued to

play with the school team. My family wanted me to concentrate upon my studies but gradually they came to see that soccer was playing an increasing part in my life."

An official from Clifton Hill soccer club, then in the First Division of the District League, approached Tachiris and convinced him to resume his competitive career.

Clifton Hill won promotion to Provisional Third Division that year, 1979, but Tachiris left after playing for half the season. He went to Greece and gained experience by training with First Division giant Aris Salonika for two weeks.

When he returned to Australia his coach at Clifton Hill, Chris Georgousis, had taken

over the reins at Northcote, then in the First Division of the Metropolitan League.

It took Tachiris three games to break into the first team and he didn't take long to make his mark. Northcote finished third in 1980 and when Preston Makedonia was admitted to the PSL the Northerners applied successfully for a berth in the State League.

Northcote conceded 11 penalties in league and cup games in 1980 but Tachiris saved on eight of those occasions!

Now the youngster is set to try his luck overseas like so many young Australian players are keen to do.

"I owe a lot to former Hellas keeper John Kennedy and to another Hellas great Jim Armstrong.

"I met them at Bobby McLachlan's coaching clinics in 1979 at Olympic Park.

"John and Jim helped me with understanding player contracts and John always said to me that I should be playing in a higher standard.

"I've got nothing to lose by heading for Europe and I can learn a lot about technique.

"If things don't work out with Admira, Mr. Geschel said that he'd arrange trials with other clubs. It's the chance of a lifetime and I'm not going to pass it up."

"I'm dedicated to succeeding and I'll give it my best shot."

## Raul is released from Marconi's torture chamber



Mike Johnson

The final fall of Raul Blanco at Marconi was the last act of a modern Roman tragedy.

From early season thousands of Soccer followers throughout the country waited weekly for the announcement of his resignation.

When at last it came it must have been a relief to Blanco and to those who knew how he had been stretched to breaking point by the Marconi rack.

Of course there are others who say that he did not have to emplant himself into the Marconi manager's office which for him turned out to be a torture chamber.

They say he had to pay the penalty as all coaches do for poor results.

Indeed Blanco has paid the penalty.

He will keep paying it for many years to come as he tries to re-establish himself as a successful member of the coaching profession.

Ironically, I started Raul Blanco on the slippery dip which has dumped him with a thump to the foot of the coaching ladder.

Two years ago, he was riding high as a feted and successful coach with Melita (Sydney) which he got promoted into Stage league and took into the final four the following year after a sustained run in the Ampol Cup.

There was talk of him becoming the next national coach amid speculation that he would be Rudi Gutendorf's assistant. West Adelaide wanted him.

St. George BSC was struggling in Phillips league and its president, Alex Pongrass, called me on the phone to come to his office where he asked me to nominate a successor to St. George coach, Joseph Gelei, who Pongrass said he was going to sack.

I nominated Blanco as the only Sydney coach of stature who might be able to get away from the club at that mid-season stage.

Also, he coached a skilful brand of short passing soccer which the Hungarian members of the St. George club appreciate.

Subsequently I arranged a meeting between Blanco and Pongrass and Raul eventually was signed on a two year contract.

At the end of the season Pongrass thanked me when the club narrowly escaped relegation under Blanco's guidance.

The following year the club was relegated to State league.

It came as a huge surprise when the top team in the land then appointed Blanco to its coaching job vacated by Les Schenflug.

The Marconi job always was going to be a difficult one with the demands on the players from Australia's World Cup campaign.

However, when you have just lost a coaching job and Real Madrid or Manchester United comes for you, you don't turn them down, no matter what the expected problems.

I, more than any other person in this country, am aware of the problems Blanco faced.

I faced them seven years previously with St. George when I was manager coach of a team which had eight players in the national team squad.

Three times I had the team on top of the league and each time after a lengthy spell in a national team camp we lost games and the league leadership, eventually finishing third in the table.

After a demanding close season in 1973 by Rasic's national team, similar to that undergone by the Gutendorf team which took such toll of Marconi players, I made a decision to curtail basic training for my national team players, in the knowledge that eight of my players were going to Germany in May.

To cut a long story short I lost my position in late season, with St. George fifth, just as Blanco has lost his job now.

Blanco carried major burdens in his last two coaching stints, which brought him undone.

At St. George he misjudged the difference in standard between the State league and the Phillips league.

While with Melita he continually stated that his Melita team was not far behind Phillips league teams in ability, an opinion which seemed justified because of Melita good results against Marconi and St. George in the Ampol Cup.

Blanco backed this erroneous judgement when he joined Saints and bought numerous State league players who eventually proved that there is a marked difference between Phillips league and State league.

At Marconi not only did Blanco have the problems of national team commitments on his best players, he also was in charge of a team whose style was geared to the tearaway running of the three strikers, Jankovics, Sharne and Krncevic.

These players wanted the ball played early to them.

They are dynamic, running type players, unsuited to the patient, short passing build-ups which Blanco prefers.

When I read early season reports that he was trying to slow down the Marconi game I felt there could be trouble and I was right.

Toward the end he realised his mistake and settled for a long ball game, more similar to the British style of play.

Blanco is a pleasant man and has amassed numerous friends in the game, including the media, because of his cheerful outlook and civilised manner.

These relationships and this civilised approach have helped him retain his last two jobs when other more abrasive personalities may have been pushed out more prematurely.

My style would be the opposite of Raul Blanco, but I do not agree that pleasantness prevents coaching success.

Blanco succeeded previously with his approach to coaching and life. He tells me he will not quit, but will try to succeed again.

It is a long haul, as I have found.

But if you love the game, as you do Raul, it is worth it.

## Davidson tops in Tassie

New Zealander Brian Davidson is a unique figure in Tasmanian soccer.

He is the only capped international player here (he played for New Zealand against Sunderland, Hearts, Spurs and Iran); he is the only player to have won the Rothmans Gold Medal twice (in 1979 and 1980); and he is the fastest player in Tasmania.

Davidson, 27, is player-coach of State League side Georgetown, currently in third place.

Born in Masterton, he played in the New Zealand National League with Wellington Diamond United, the champions in 1976, before moving to Essendon Croatia in 1977. He scored five league goals and eight cup goals for Croatia during its best ever season when it won the league, the State League Cup, the Ampol Cup, and reached the final of the Docherty Cup. The team's forward line of that era was probably the best he's ever played in.

After two seasons with Croatia, Davidson joined Croatia-Glenorchy in Tasmania as player-coach. The team finished second in the State League and he won the first of his two Rothmans gold medals, as well as being runner-up in the individual goalscoring award. He stayed with the club as a player last season and won the State League goalscoring award, as well as the Rothmans gold medal. This is his first season with Georgetown and he has kept up his scoring rate, being in third place with 12 goals.

Davidson is the archetypal footballer. He has the perfect physique for a soccer player.

He has powerful legs, is well-balanced, and has phenomenal speed over both short and long distances. He also has a powerful, accurate shot. He worked on his speed as a youngster, doing a lot of hill-climbing and sprint work at training.

Allied to his physical attributes, Davidson has the right sort of temperament. He is an affable character, both on and off the field.

He takes a lot of 'stick' from lesser opponents but never retaliates. He prefers to walk away from incidents and get on with the game.

Davidson has mixed feelings about coaching at such a relatively young age.

"For any young person with a lot to offer as a player, it's a real burden. It can be disappointing too, especially when you build a good side yet can't seem to put it together. Being a player-coach is even harder."

Davidson believes that Tasmania must get a team into the PSL. Imports are helping Tasmanian soccer but he believes that the imports tend to lose their professional attitude after they have been here for a time. The trouble with Tasmanian players is that they lack confidence and they haven't got the right attitude.

He is pleased with his move to Georgetown, a team from the very north of the State.

"A season away from Hobart could do me the world of good. I went to

Georgetown for a 'break'. I was under a lot of pressure last year and I was in a bit of a rut."

He is pleased with the club's training facilities.

"We have a fully floodlit training ground and plenty of balls. We're not lacking anything."

Many teams complain about Georgetown's home ground but the club has spent \$2000 on it this season. Part of this sum was spent on a new drainage system.

Georgetown's third placing this season has been a little disappointing for Davidson.

"We have an over-abundance of individual skill but we lack team cohesion. When the boys want to play they're brilliant."

The team has three other imports, Peter Davidson and Jeff Wahrlick, also from New Zealand, and Steve Morely, an Englishman who migrated to New Zealand when he was 12 years old.

Davidson was non-committal about his future. He is contracted to Georgetown until the end of the season. The team is in the



Brian Davidson

quarter-finals of both the Ampol and Cadbury Cups so there's still plenty to aim for and ample opportunity to make amends for a somewhat disappointing league season.

Al that Tasmanian fans can hope for is that Davidson decides to continue his career in Tasmania. Tasmanian soccer certainly needs him.











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